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MASSOB/police clash in Onitsha claims 2 lives

Our Reporter December 28, 2013 22 Comments »



From EMMANUEL UZOR, Onitsha

Human and vehicular movements were yesterday disrupted for many hours as members of the Movement for the Actualization of the Sovereign State of Biafra (MASSOB), clashed with mobile policemen from the Police Mobile Force, PMF, 54 Onitsha over alleged killing of two of their members.

Eyewitness disclosed that trouble started when members of the group challenged the policemen who were on stop and search at the ever busy Onitsha/Owerri road. The policemen had flagged down a man driving home with his family in a Sports Utility Vehicle.

According to the report, the man had told the policemen that he had no permit to drive with a tinted glass, which he said was fixed in his vehicle by the factory, which triggered off controversies between the driver and the policemen who insisted on dragging the driver to the station.

A security man who identified himself as Okon said, "trouble began when the driver could not produce tinted glass permit, which did not go down well with the policemen that insisted on taking him to the station.

"As they were moving, the driver diverted and tried to persuade the policeman maybe to collect some money and let him go since he was carrying his family. It was at that moment that two members of MASSOB appeared from nowhere and ordered the policemen to allow the man go.

Argument ensued and one of the policemen fired shots that killed two MASSOB members and escaped. Shortly after that, members of MASSOB regrouped and blocked the road, making bonfire, which led to the policemen to retreat.

Mr. Okon further disclosed that when the policemen noticed that the atmosphere was charged beyond their control, they quickly left the scene as members of the group went on rampage..

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