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Killing of Aba traders: NDLEA officials won't escape justice –Rep

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BY OUR REPORTER ON AUGUST 3, 2015

NATIONAL

From **Okey Sampson**, Aba

RESIDENTS of Aba, Abia State have been assured that officials of the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA), Abia command, who were allegedly involved in the killing of traders at the Ariaria International Market at the weekend would not go scot-free.

Three traders at the Bakassi Line, which houses shoe makers and other allied products at the Ariaria International Market, were on Friday gunned down when some officials of NDLEA raided the section of the market under the guise of searching for dealers in hard drugs.

Scores of other traders sustained varying degrees of injuries as a result of the shootings.

Member representing Aba North and Aba South at the House of Representatives, Hon Prestige Ossy, who gave the assurance in Aba while addressing the traders when he visited the scene of the incident on Saturday, said it was heart-rending that armed officials of NDLEA could raid the market and without any provocation or threat to their lives reportedly opened fire on defenseless civilians going about their legitimate businesses.

"This is very sad. I cancelled the official function I was to attend in Kano and came down to Aba this morning (Saturday) to get a first-hand information and what I have seen is, to say the least, horrible.

"We are not in a war situation that law enforcement agencies should come into the market with guns and start shooting indiscriminately at defenseless civilians. I am taking this matter up and all those involved in this dastardly act will not go unpunished", he assured the people.

Ossy, who later visited the injured traders at the different hospitals where they were receiving treatment,

promised to off set their medical bills and those of two other patients, who had remained in a hospital for

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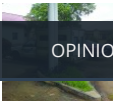
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over six months because nobody could settle their medical bills.



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