

# Biafra anniversary: 52 MASSOB, IPOB members, 3 policemen killed

— 31st May 2016

... Only 2 persons died -Army

From our correspondents

Fifty-two members of the Indigenous People of Biafra (IPOB) and three policeman were feared killed in Anambra, Rivers, Delta and Abia states, during the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the declaration of the Republic of Biafra.

Biafra was declared by Col. Chukwuemeka Ojukwu on May 30, 1967.

Some reports, however, said casualties are much higher. Some eyewitnesses told Daily Sun that 32 people were killed in Onitsha while another set of eyewitnesses insisted 20 people were killed.

In the same breath, IPOB Media and Publicity officer, Mr. Emma Powerful insisted 40 members were killed yesterday, bringing the casualty figure to 72.

It was also gathered that three policemen were killed during the protest while one soldier attached to the Onitsha 302 military regiment was stabbed and seriously wounded.

Nnewi South Regional Administrator of the Movement for the Actualisation of the Sovereign State of Biafra (MASSOB), Chief Anthony Nwodo and 14 others were arrested by the Joint Security Taskforce.

He was said to have been arrested at Ezinifite, on his way to his town from Onitsha.

Sources also said of the 32 people who died, two were killed at the Niger Bridge Head while moving into Onitsha from Asaba in Delta State and another two people were killed at Nkpor while the rest died at various locations in Onitsha.

Daily Sun gathered that on getting to the bridge, protesters met stiff resistance from members of Joint Task Force (JTF) resulting in a bloody clash which also led to the death of a policeman and the stabbing of a soldier.