

Omor/Umumbo crises: 30 dead, 40 houses destroyed -Ofumelu

From **Obinna Odogwu**, Awka

THE member representing Oyi/Agarakum Federal Constituency in the National Assembly, Hon. Vincent Ofumelu, yesterday disclosed that 30 persons were killed and 40 houses destroyed in the recent inter-communal war between Omor and Umumbo communities in Agarakum council area of Anambra State.

He also revealed that more than 1,000 persons from both communities were displaced from their homes during the crisis. The displaced persons, according to him, were taking refuge at a Catholic Church parish in Omasi community.

The lawmaker disclosed this to Daily Sun in Awka, the state capital during a press briefing by the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) where the party announced modalities for the distribution of its N125 million COVID-19 palliatives for the state.

"More than 40 houses have been destroyed in both communities. About 30 persons were killed in both communities too. More than 80 per-

sons were injured and were hospitalized. As we speak now, a lot have lost their lives," he said.

Ofumelu, who donated N5 million to his party's intervention fund, said that he was also making personal effort to provide more palliatives aside what his party would be giving to his people. He said that the latest report he got from the troubled zone was that many of the displaced persons were in dire need of food as the Catholic priest catering to their needs has exhausted his foodstuffs.

"A lot of them have run away from their places. Some of them are staying in a parish house. I got a distress call yesterday from a Reverend Father that is in charge of Omasi Parish. He said that a lot of people that ran to his parish house could no longer feed.

"He told me that the last rice he was cooking at that time was the last foodstuff in his house, and that the people in the parish house were more than 1,000. They are in Omasi parish now but cannot feed," he stated.

He said that many people who lost their loved ones and their properties

to the crisis were still angry but efforts were being made to calm frayed nerves and restore lasting peace to the area.

"Peace is gradually returning to the communities but some people are still angry because they could no longer

see their loved ones again. Some are still angry because they don't have shelter. But all the stakeholders in Agarakum and even Oyi, the neighbouring local government, are making efforts to restore peace completely to the communities," he stated.

Police hunt for killers of General's son

By **Christopher Oji**

THE Lagos State Police Command has declared manhunt for the gunmen that shot dead son of a retired Army General and one time military administrator of Ondo State, Brigadier General Opaleye (rtd).

The deceased, Muriwa Babafemi-lapo Olupaleye, was shot dead at a popular drinking joint on Adekunle Kaze Street, Surulere, last Thursday.

It was gathered that four armed men shot Muriwa at close range before bolting away. One of Muriwa's friends, Kunle, who tried to rush him to the hospital was arrested by the police and taken to Soloki Police Station.

It was gathered that all efforts made

at once since the police that the deceased was his friend fell on deaf ears. It was gathered that Kunle was interrogated and made to write a statement while Muriwa's body was taken to a morgue.

"Unfortunately, Kunle, who made spirited efforts to save his friend was clamped into detention while the case was transferred to the State Criminal Intelligence and Investigation Department (SCIID), Pantti, Yaba, for further investigation," one Fafai, who claimed to have witnessed the shooting said.

It was also gathered that Opa, as the victim was popularly called, is the last child in the noble family of Opaleye.

He was working with a sporting outfit, City Sports, and he lived at Ajose Adesogun Street in Victoria Island.