

deliberate and accept recommendation - you know, the report was

# Communal Crisis: 15 Feared Dead, 50 Arrested

**L**ingering communal crisis in Onicha and Igboeze communities in Onicha Local Government Area of Ebonyi State, yesterday assumed a dangerous dimension, as women from the area carried out a peaceful demonstration, claiming that no fewer than 15 persons had been killed, while 50 others were arrested by the police.

They also expressed dismay over alleged police brutality and harassment since the crisis broke out in February 2, result-

## EBONYI

*From Christopher Isiguzo*

*in Abakaliki*

ing in the destruction of properties belonging to high profile political office holders from the area, including, the Deputy Governor, Chigozie Ogbu and Chairman of the State Council of Traditional Rulers, Eze Agom Eze.

Police Public Relations Officer of the State Command,

ASP N-Nnudam Frederick, denied knowledge of mass arrest and killing of 15 persons, stating that "no sane person will go to Onicha and begin to shoot sporadically at people." He said he was yet to get full details of the protest by the women from his investigation department.

The women claimed that the mass arrest by the police was as a result of the killing of two of their men, DSP Wilfred Ekpe and Sergeant Ekpenyong Effium by the youth, who were protesting alleged government insensitivity to their plight.

The demonstrators, among them widows and pregnant women took their protest to the Abakaliki Government House, where they resisted attempts by the police to drive them away at the gate.

Most of the women sustained grievous injuries, while about four of them appeared almost naked, in a move aimed at attracting attention.

## y for Election in Warri - Ijaw Group

### DELTA

*From Omon-Julius Onabu in Warri*

Government Area. INEC's order to create wards, has not been carried out, by INEC's action, and or inaction, Niger-Delta is only in peacefulness without justice.

the oil companies, share of the negative value of injustice in commonality with evil. Until wards/constituencies based on population distribution are delineated in Warri South-West L.G.A. and the situation is duly and peacefully resolved, INEC has no genuine business conducting the ill-prepared 2007 general elections in Nigeria, relative to Warri South-West L.G.A.," it said.