

Two Feared Dead as MASSOB Celebrates Biafra

No fewer than two persons were allegedly shot dead yesterday as security swooped on the members of the Movement for the Actualisation of the Sovereign State of Biafra (MASSOB), who were celebrating Biafra Day at Aba.

Leaders of the organisation, who addressed newsmen at Umuahia during a rally attended by hundreds of Massobians, said that the dead were among those shot by the police while several others were arrested.

But the Abia State Police Command could not confirm the clash as the Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Mr. Ali Okechukwu, told THISDAY in a telephone chat that the report of the alleged shooting and arrests were yet to reach his desk.

MASSOB's Director of

*From Emmanuel Ugwu
in Umuahia*

Security, Umuahia region, Mr. Kingsley Chetachi, told newsmen that the security agencies had no moral justification to use arms on people engaging in non-violent protests, adding that the police have been hounding MASSOB members over the past two weeks.

"But irrespective of what they are doing to us

we are not deterred as we will continue to agitate for Biafra non-violently," Chetachi said.

MASSOB's Regional Administrator for Umuahia, Comfort Ogbuokiri, called on the United Nations (UN) to intervene in the Biafra issue to save *Ndigbo* from being victimised in the country, adding that Biafran independence was long over due.

Nyako Sacks Adam

Governor Murtala Nyako of Adamawa State has removed John Manassah as the Secretary to the State Government (SSG).

A statement signed by Nyako's Press Secretary, Maijama'a Adamu, in Yola stated that the newly sworn-in Commissioner for Rural Development, Mr. Kobis

Aris, has been appointed as new SSG. The statement said the appointment took immediate effect and directed Manassah to proceed to the National Institute for Policy and Strategic Studies (NIPSS), Kuru, near Jos for studies.

Manassah, who hails from Demsa Local Government Area of the state, also served under