

Enugu sets up panel to probe Mgbowo communal clash

By Tony Edike

ENUGU—A six-man judicial commission of inquiry has been set up by the Enugu State Government to look into the recent communal conflict between four communities in Mgbowo, Awgu local government area of the state.

➤ Eight lives were lost while several others were seriously wounded in the bloody conflict during which 15 houses and property worth millions of naira were also destroyed.

The Mgbowo community had been engulfed in crisis over the alleged appointment of two unpopular indigenes of the

area as traditional rulers of the autonomous communities recently created by the state government.

The crisis escalated when the imposed rulers allegedly invited the police to halt the community's new yam festival which they feared could be used to cause chaos in the area, but youths in the communities resisted the move and subsequently clashed with the police.

The Police, however, denied involvement in the bloody clash insisting that their presence in the community was purely to maintain peace and forestall breakdown of law and order.