

13 PDP, AC supporters die in Lagos clashes

**Load of police uniforms intercepted*

By Evelyn Usman

AT least 13 persons suspected to be supporters of the ruling Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) and Action Congress (AC) have lost their lives in renewed bloody clashes in different parts of Lagos between Thursday and Friday night.

This is just as the Police, Thursday night, intercepted a Jeep in which were reportedly a large quantity of fake uniforms, at Victoria Island area of Lagos. Arrested alongside the Jeep with undisclosed registration number was a middle-aged man said to have impersonated an INEC official.

The latest of the clash, according to report, occurred yesterday at Surulere area of Lagos, following an argument over alleged use of security agents to molest members of one of the political parties. The argument said to have been between two suspected members of the PDP and AC, later degenerated into a fight. Reports said some members of one of the parties, upon information, stormed the scene and allegedly beat their opponent to death.

When news of the death of the victim said to be a PDP supporter reportedly reached his colleague's abodes, a free-for-all fight, in which dangerous weapons including guns were reportedly used ensued at the end of which three other persons reportedly lost their lives.

A similar incident which also claimed four lives, occurred Thursday night at Oshodi area of the state between suspected supporters of the PDP and AC. Corpses of the victims were said to have been taken to the State Criminal Investigations Department at about 9:30 p.m., consequent upon which the operatives raided the area yesterday morning and effected some arrests.

Ogba area of Lagos witnessed same crisis which resulted in the death of three persons, Thursday night. Also, at Alaba International market, located along the Lagos/Badagry expressway, there was reportedly sporadic shootings shortly before the arrival of the PDP campaign team led by President Olusegun Obasanjo, in the area.

Meanwhile, the Police,

Thursday night, intercepted a Jeep said to be conveying a large quantity of police uniforms to an unknown destination, at Victoria Island area of the state. Driver of the Jeep with an undisclosed identity, according to police sources, was arrested during an intensified stop-and-search routine job carried out at the instance of the state's Police Commissioner, Mr. Bashiru Azeez. The driver and the uniforms are currently being detained at the State Criminal Investigations Department (SCID), Panti.

Also arrested Thursday night was a fake policeman who allegedly impersonated an INEC official. The suspect was said to have been arrested at Isolo area of Lagos by operatives from the SCID at about 9:00 p.m. The suspect's name, however, could not be disclosed to Saturday Vanguard as one of the operatives who spoke on condition of anonymity said investigation was still going on.

Contacted, the Lagos State Police Public Relations Officer, Mr. Olubode Ojajuni, claimed ignorant of the incidents.