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By Emma Amaize

Posted to the Web: Friday, October 05, 2007

Warri—

AUTHORITIES of the Urhiale Naval Training College, Ogorode, Sapele in Delta State have set up an Administrative Board of Inquiry to investigate an alleged killing of a 28-year-old commercial driver, Edward Iboyikporo at an eatery in Sapele by a naval personnel, last weekend.

Already, the naval staff, suspected to have stabbed the deceased to death and a number of his colleagues who were with him at the time of the incident have been arrested and detained by the authorities.

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The Commandant of the College was said to be worried by the incident.

The Administrative Board of Inquiry, headed by Lieutenant Commander C. Allison was sighted by Vanguard, yesterday, at the Divisional Police Station, Sapele, where the members went on a fact-finding mission. The team also visited the scene of the incident at Amuogodo area of Sapele, as well as the Prof. Eferakeya mortuary, Sapele, where the corpse of Edward had been deposited. An account said that one of the arrested naval staff sprayed the content of a bottle of beer he bought on Edward between 10.00 pm and 11.00 pm at the eatery, last Friday, and when the deceased challenged him, he brought out a dagger from his pocket and pounced on him, while his colleagues gave him a helping hand.

But at Sapele, yesterday, there was another unsubstantiated account that both the naval personnel and the deceased were engaged in a fisticuff over an unsaid issue, and that it was in the process, that Edward was stabbed in self defence.

Divisional Police Officer (DPO) for Sapele, Danjuma Kronda told Vanguard in his office at Sapele, yesterday, that the police received information that the naval authorities in Sapele had arrested the naval staff who stabbed the deceased to death, and they were carrying out their own preliminary investigations.

He said there was no plan by the police to cover up the incident, as insinuated by some persons, adding that since it was an incident involving a military man, the Navy is expected

to carry out an inquiry first before handing
those involved to the police for investigations.

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