

One killed, 6 cars burnt as Customs, smugglers clash

By Ola Ajayi

IBADAN—THE alleged killing of a man, Mr. Rasak Ramoni popularly called *Were* by men of the Nigeria Customs Service in Iseyin has triggered a full blown violence between some smugglers in the area and the customs officers.

Already, soldiers had been deployed in the troubled town to quell the riot.

Vanguard gathered that trouble started on Sunday night, when the deceased identified as a member of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) was playing a mediatory role between the smugglers and the Customs.

According to a source in the town, there was disagreement over some banned vehicles from the Republic of Benin which the Customs officers prevented from being driven away by the smugglers.

Angered by the development, the smugglers were said to have gone back and mobilized other colleagues who reportedly set six vehicles belonging to the Customs on fire.

Confirming the incident, the Oyo State Commissioner of Police, Mr. Baba Bolanta, said military had been deployed there.