

# \* One killed, station torched in Lagos police, OPC clash

BY EVELYN USMAN

**P**ANDEMONIUM broke out, weekend, in the densely-populated Ajegunle area of Lagos State, after some members of Odua Peoples Congress, OPC, engaged policemen in Tolu Police Division in a gun duel over the release of a suspect.

A suspected member of OPC was shot dead in the process, a passer-by hit by a stray bullet, one policeman shot and several others sustained varying degrees of injuries in the incident which paralysed commercial activities in the area.

A police van was also burnt by the OPC members and part of the stationed torched. Their attempt to burn down the station, however, met with resistance from the policemen.

There were different accounts as to how trouble started.

apprehension of the man reached policemen at Tolu Division, a team was reportedly drafted to the OPC's hideout where the victim was rescued and brought to the station. The next day, OPC members reportedly stormed the station demanding for his immediate release.

## **Eyewitness account**

An eyewitness, who gave his name as Famuyiwa Oladele, said: "Immediately

the OPC people came, they started shaking the gate of the station, demanding that the man that was taken from their custody be returned.

"Before we knew what was happening, they started shooting and we all took to our heels.

"One Emeka, who was driving along the route, was hit by a stray bullet. They attempted to burn down the station when the police fired and killed one of them.

"Nobody could sleep in this area that day because the OPC members threatened to bring down the whole place.

Many residents fled."

## **Police story**

When contacted, spokesman for the Lagos State Police Command, Ngozi Braide, confirmed the incident, saying report of the illegal arrest was received at the command's control room from where policemen at Tolu Division were contacted.

She said that the policeman that fired the shot that killed the OPC member had been detained, and that the matter was being investigated to ascertain whether it was right to have fired the shot.

# **Policeman kills baby, batters wife in Edo**

BY GABRIEL ENOGHOLASE

**B**ENIN— A Policeman (names withheld), allegedly killed his 19-month-old baby after battering his wife in Benin, weekend.

Vanguard gathered that the incident occurred at a flat in

she tried to find out why, he pounced on her.

Contacted, Dr. Jolly Nosakhare Iguma, the Chief Medical Director of Jonos Medical Clinic where the baby was taken to, said a mother and her daughter brought in a dead baby a few days ago.

He said: "On close

the baby. However, if he was brought in early enough, the baby would have been transfused with blood. He may have died of jaundice."

When newsmen visited the residence weekend, it was deserted as neighbors claimed not to have seen any of its occupants in the past few days.