

3 killed as political crisis erupts in Otukpo

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By Peter Duru

MAKURDI—Three persons have been reportedly killed ahead of the Benue South senatorial rerun election slated for this weekend, when supporters of All Progressives Congress, APC, and Peoples Democratic Party, PDP, clashed yesterday.

The clash, which occurred at Ugboju in Otukpo Local Government Area, is coming on the heels of the petition by Senator David Mark to the Inspector General of Police, alleging threat to his life ahead of the re-run with Daniel Onjeh of APC.

Vanguard learned that those killed in the crisis were Okwoche Omale, Andrew Adaji and Audu Okopi, with several houses also razed.

It was gathered that the crisis was triggered by a disagreement between the caretaker Chairman of Otukpo Local Government Area, Mr. Ijachi Ude of APC and his younger brother, Eje Ude of PDP.

When contacted, Police Area Commander for Otukpo, Mr. Fasuba Akinyele, said the report had not been brought to his notice.

The representative of Otukpo/Akpa in the state House of Assembly, Johnson Ahubi alleged that the crisis was triggered by APC supporters, expressing dismay at the attitude of the Police in Otukpo, whom he accused of failing in their duties.