

Irate youths vandalise Benue APC chairman's residence after security guard got electrocuted

●As Ortom intervenes

By Peter Duru

MAKURDI—The Makurdi residence of the Benue State Chairman of All Progressives Congress, APC, Abba Yaro, was yesterday vandalised by irate youths in the Judges' Quarters Area of Makurdi town following the electrocution of a young security guard in the house.

The youths vandalised all vehicles parked within the premises as well as air conditioners, electrical fittings, the entrance gate and window glasses in the house after which they moved to set the building ablaze.

The timely arrival of Governor Samuel Ortom, who was returning from an official engagement at the Makurdi airport, and the police saved the residence of the chairman from being razed.

A resident, who spoke on condition of anonymity, told *Vanguard* that the youths went into a state of frenzy to avenge the death of a young security guard in the house, who was electrocuted while trying to trim a tree in the compound on the orders of the wife of the chairman.

He said: "This morning (yesterday) we saw the body of one of the chairman's security guards on

a tree
and
upon
inquiry,
it was
learned
that he
was
electrocuted
while

trying to cut down the branch of a tree in the compound that tangled an electricity high tension cable.

"The youths were furious when they heard the father of the victim crying. They invaded the man's house pulled down the gate and vandalised the house and cars parked within the premises."

Meanwhile, the APC chairman in his account said he was not aware of the incident until he was woken up by the noise of people and that upon enquiry, he was told that one of his security guards, who tried to cut down the branch of a tree touching a high tension wire was electrocuted.

He said: "It was when I asked the other security man that he told me he had warned the deceased against cutting the branch of the tree that tangled the high tension cable and that the man assured that he knew



Vandalised cars.

how he would cut it, only to be electrocuted.

"We were in the process of sorting out things when youths came in their numbers, pulled down my gate, entered the house and destroyed several property. You can see all that was destroyed."

The APC chairman lauded Governor Ortom's prompt visit and intervention, which he said saved his family members from an attack.

Addressing the youths, Ortom condemned the attack and urged them to stop taking laws into their hands. He also directed that the father of the deceased, who was alleged to have raised the alarm of his son's death, be released by the Police after his statement had been taken.