

Tension in Imo, as houses, shops, vehicles are set ablaze

By Chinonso Alozie

O WERRI—HOUSES, shops, vehicles belonging to the people of Awonmanma in Oru East Local Government Area of Imo State have been set ablaze.

Vanguard gathered that the property were set on fire, yesterday, at about 03:52 p.m.

Trouble, according to a version of what happened, started when unknown gunmen in their convoy attacked soldiers in the area. In the process, the unknown gunmen were said to have killed one soldier.

Pained by the alleged killing of one of the soldiers, the soldiers allegedly mobilised to the area and visited their anger on the village.

A native of the area, said: "There was a clash between unknown gunmen and security agents in Awonmama, the gun shots fired from different sides ignited fire from one of the inflammable substances packed in the shops and vehicles in the area and the fire spread from one house to the other and burnt even commercial buses, filling stations. People shops were destroyed by the fire."

However, at press time, the affected persons are homeless as their personal belongings have all been burnt to ashes.