

# Customs' stray bullet kills 2-year-old girl in Ogun

By James Ogunnaike

**Stray bullet by operatives of the Nigeria Customs Service (NCS) has reportedly killed a two-year-old girl in Ilaro, Ogun State on Thursday.**

**It was gathered that the incident happened at It-awaya, near the Federal Polytechnic, Ilaro, Yewa, South Local Government Area of Ogun State, when the NCS men were on the trail of some suspected smugglers.**

**The child was rushed to a hospital, where she died as a result of having lost too much blood.**

There were gunshot injuries near the girl's armpit, suggesting that the bullet penetrated through that part into her body.

It was also gathered that a young man also sustained gunshot injuries in the incident that raised tension among residents of the area.

Sources informed  **Vanguard** that a customs officer opened fire while chasing a man suspected to be conveying foreign rice to an unknown destination.

"Those customs officers thought the man was smuggling rice, so they opened fire on him. It was one of the stray bullets that killed the child and also

inflicted injuries on the mother.

"It was after they have committed murder that they realized the man they were chasing was not with rice. That's what we face here all the time."

Speaking on the incident, the NCS in Ogun 1 Area command, Ahmed

## I belong to Salinsile-led faction of Osun APC — Aregbesola

*\*Says state was safer during his tenure*

By Shina Abubakar,  
Osogbo

**F**ormer Osun State Governor, Ogbeni Rauf Aregbesola has declared that he is fully with the Rasaq Salinsile-led faction of the All Progressives Congress in the state.

The Minister of Interior, while addressing his supporters at a public gathering in Ilesa, Osun State yesterday, said there is no point hiding the fact Osun APC has been divided into two factions.

Aregbesola who spoke in Yoruba language also disclosed that during his two terms tenure as governor in the state, there was no security breach that threatened the state safety, saying the feat was

Oloyede, confirmed the incident, describing it as highly devastating.

He said the command is saddened with the ugly development, adding that investigation has commenced into the incident.

"We are sad and devastated that this happened on the line of duty. This inci-

dent is highly pathetic.

"We sympathise with the family of the minor, and the command is making efforts to contact them. The controller has also ordered investigation into the incident towards putting an end to similar incidents," Oloyede said.

achieved due to extraordinary efforts to keep the state safe.

"For those in doubt, Osun APC is divided. We have APC, Rauf Aregbesola's faction which is chaired by Hon Razaq Salinsile and the other. Everybody is doing his or her own, later, we will renegotiate, we will rearrange everything. The caucus that produced our faction is called The Osun Progressives (TOP) chaired by Elder Lowo Adebisi. Those people who are doubting whether I am part of TOP or not should listen, I belong to TOP wholeheartedly.

"I am happy that the Commissioner of Police is here. There are a lot of lies that are flying around, I steered the affairs of this

state for 8 years. When I was there, you can check your record, there was no trouble, we did the job with the whole of our body to record the feat for 8 years. I use to sleep for 2 to 3 hours every day. I did not only do the job with my heart but also my whole body," said the Minister.

He urged the Commissioner of Police, Olawale Olokode to remain objective in the critical period in the state for the force to achieve success. "I am a son of the soil, we cannot work to scuttle the state. My parents are from this state. If the police follow the dictates of their job without being biased, they will record success," he said.