

THE MOTHER OF LIVE, WHO SAID SHE WOULD

# NAF officer, one other killed as soldiers, smugglers clash in Ogun

By James Ogunnaike

**A**BEOKUTA—Pandemonium broke out in Owode, Yewa South local government area of Ogun State, on Sunday, when two siblings were allegedly shot for smuggling foreign rice by operatives of the Nigerian Army.

At the end of the day, one of the siblings died and an Air Force officer was killed by an angry mob in retaliation.

It was gathered that the officers had accosted the older of the two brothers in an attempt to seize his vehicle, which contained bags of foreign parboiled rice.

"In the course of the altercation between the man and the soldiers, some people called his younger brother

popularly known as Saheed Elegusi."

A source, who simply identified herself as Adekemi, said: "Saheed rushed to the scene and the two of them were shot by the soldiers. Saheed died immediately, while his brother sustained injuries and is receiving treatment in an undisclosed hospital in the area. We don't know when soldiers become Customs officers."

It was alleged that the soldiers immediately fled the scene after shooting the siblings as angry youths took over the streets in protest.

The mob set bonfires on the Sango-Idiroko international road, disrupting vehicular movements for hours.

Confirming the incident, yesterday, Ogun State Police Public Relations

Officer, Abimbola Oyeyemi, said according to what he heard, the personnel shot two men, one of them died, while the other one sustained injuries and received treatment in hospital.

He added, the most unfortunate aspect of the incident was that an angry mob attacked an innocent officer of the Nigerian Air Force, killing him in retaliation.

Oyeyemi said the slain Air Force man was in uniform when he unknowingly ran into the mob who lynched him.

"The state Commissioner of Police has directed the Homicide section to take over the matter. The situation has been brought under control. The area is calm now. The DPO of Owode and some other policemen were able to move into the scene quickly."