

# RIOTING RENEWED IN NORTH NIGERIA: Lagos Flies Police to Area Pressure on Ironsi Grows

By LLOYD GARRISON Special to The New York Times

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### Lagos Flies Police to Area— Pressure on Ironsi Grows

By LLOYD GARRISON

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LAGOS, Nigeria, June 5—

Fresh rioting and killing have broken out for the second consecutive weekend in northern Nigeria.

The police here said fighting had erupted in the walled city of Katsina and also in Gombe. Reinforcements of rifle-carrying policemen were flown north from Lagos today.

Telephone communication with Katsina and Gombe has been cut off since early yesterday. Reports by people with businesses in the two towns followed a familiar theme: Bands of Hausa tribesmen began demonstrating Saturday against Nigeria's military regime, then went hunting for Ibos.

There are about a million southern Ibos spread throughout the semifederal Northern Region. They are better educated, hold better jobs and have long been resented by the Hausas as potential "colonizers."

Since last weekend more than 115 Ibos have been reported slain and more than 500 injured in communal rioting.

#### Toll Difficult to Count.

The final toll may never be known. But it is bound to be much higher than the official count because the Africans are not inclined to commit their dead to city morgues.

Most of the young army officers who carried out the coup last January against the civilian government, dominated by the Northern Region, were Ibos. The military junta's commander in chief, Maj. Gen. Johnson Aguiyi-Ironsi, is also an Ibo.

The fresh wave of violence puts General Ironsi on the spot. He must find some formula to placate Northern fears of Southern domination. But he cannot go too far without being accused of "appeasement" in the south—and it is the south that provides him his sole base of power.

Late last week, the junta's Northern governor, Lieut. Col.

Hassan Katsina called together the north's powerful emirs for a peace parley in Kaduna.

They met for two days and the emirs departed with vague promises of trying to keep order in their domains, provided the military in Lagos gave favorable consideration to their grievances.

General Ironsi is considering the emirs' demands, reported to be stiff.

The Northerners want no part of a unitary government with tight central control from Lagos. They want to preserve their previous regional autonomy and they oppose the unification of the civil service. Above all, they want the junta to punish the army's "young Turks," who led the coup and killed Prime Minister Abubakar Tafawa Balewa, a Northerner;

the North's Premier, the Saraduana of Sokoto, and many of the North's top army officers.

General Ironsi has been reluctant to meet these wishes.

The coup leaders who were not killed in the plot's turbulent aftermath are reported in protective custody. But because they are considered heroes by the Southerners, General Ironsi has been reluctant to bring them to trial.