

4) The Team was told by the villagers that similar incidents had taken place in all villages of Amaseri and in surrounding towns.

C) During the visit to this compound, the Team observed the following:

1) The overall condition of Ndukwe indicated there had been no battle for this village.

2) During the walk, some compounds were seen which had been burnt, while other compounds were undamaged.

3) The elders and villagers of Ndukwe were reluctant to make statements in the presence of a senior staff officer whom the Sector Commander had detailed to accompany the Team.

4) All houses of the compound, where the incident of December 25 allegedly took place, were burnt and some were destroyed.

5) The one cinder block house was partially destroyed and two large craters of two or three feet in diameter were seen against the wall.

6) A grave (which the elders claimed was that of the owner) was seen in the floor of the house.

D) In view of these statements and observations, the Team is of the opinion that the behaviour of the federal troops in the Amaseri area may not have been in accordance with the operational code of conduct for the Nigerian Armed Forces.

E) On February 2, 1970, the Ministry of Defence was informed of this inquiry. The reply was that the Ministry had already conducted a high-level investigation of the incidents in the Afikpo area.

F) To clarify this matter, it is recommended that the Ministry of Defence makes public its findings.