

of civilians by federal soldiers took place at or near either of the villages, although some civilians had been killed in the fighting or whilst resisting looting.

Afikpo

A) The second specific area visited by the Team was around Afikpo in the First Division. The Team had received information on December 30, 1969 that there had been irregular conduct by the federal troops in the Afikpo area. The Team visiting the First Division Area on January 11 found the following:

1) The Sector Commander reported that since October, 1969 there had been a great deal of terrorist activity in his sector by the "Biafran Organization of Freedom Fighters" (BOFF). He claimed that BOFF based at Okposi would travel south through Amaseri to Anofia and points south of this area to disrupt federal lines of communications and take reprisal action against the Ibo people they considered collaborators. This BOFF terrorist activity came to a head after Sheik Nwagui, the religious head of the local Moslem population, came from Lagos, at the request of the FMG, to his home in Anofia to encourage his people to come out of the bush. Some 5,000 people came out. The Sector Commander stated that after this 17 people were killed and 40 houses were burnt in Anofia by BOFF. The headman of the village ran to Afikpo during a BOFF attack one night to get Federal Army protection for his village. Subsequently, Anofia was garrisoned by a platoon of federal troops.

2) The Sector Commander stated that there had been many other incidents by BOFF terrorists in Afikpo and surrounding areas. He stated that BOFF personnel would go to Amaseri, which was on their route from Okposi, for sanctuary and food. His troops had tracked the terrorists to Amaseri and had sought them out and destroyed them.