

Kenyan lawmaker gunned down, mobs form

by UPI

NAIROBI, Kenya -- A Kenyan opposition member of parliament was gunned down near his Nairobi home early Tuesday, sparking more clashes among tribal mobs, police said. Mugabe Were was a member of the Orange Democratic Movement, whose leader Raila Odinga, is challenging Dec. 27 election results he claims were rigged. As news of Were's death spread, mobs torched houses and at least four people were reported killed, the BBC reported. In the western Kenyan city of Naivasha, police called for army air support to help control thousands of people looting and burning. Helicopters swooped over the crowds and fired over their heads, the report said. Meanwhile, former U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan was to meet separately with Odinga and Kenyan President Mwai Kibaki to set up a mediation schedule, the report said. However, in a telephone interview, David Ohito, a senior political reporter for the Kenyan Standard newspaper told Voice of America he had doubts about Annan's efforts. "It does not matter how much mediation he will do," he said. "The trigger was pulled on the day the election was disputed and now the situation has gotten out of hand. We need action. No amount of mediation will solve this problem."

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