

Two more policemen killed in fresh Serbo-Croat clashes

By Laura Silber in Belgrade

TWO more Croat policemen were killed yesterday in fresh clashes between Serbs and Croats in Croatia, as attempts to hold a joint session of Yugoslavia's leaders faced collapse.

Nine other policemen were wounded in the fighting. One of the two killed died in Lipik, east of Zagreb, when Serbs ambushed and fired on Croat police, and the other when Serbs attacked three police stations with mortars in villages around Glina, south of Zagreb. Near Sisak, unidentified gunmen fired on an American TV crew, wounding one member.

Croatia's Serbs refuse to live in a separate Croatia, following

independence declarations by Croatia and Slovenia last month.

Talks among Yugoslavia's leaders yesterday suffered a new setback when representatives from Serbia and its allies refused to attend a crisis meeting between the state presidency and the presidents of the six republics, on the Croatian Adriatic island of Brioni.

Mr Borisav Jovic, Serbia's representative to the presidency, said the meeting could take place only away from Croatia. It was unclear if Croatia would accept Serbia's proposal to hold the talks in Macedonia.