

Soldiers Kill Policeman, 2 Others Over Missing Cattle

Soldiers of the Nigerian army had in the month of September, 2006, shot dead three persons including a policeman at the Elele village in the Ozuzu clan in Etche Local Government Area of Rivers State.

Villagers told CEHRD monitor who visited the area in the wake of the event that trouble started when some herdsmen, grazing in the area complained about their missing cattle which they alleged that local villagers have stolen. Apparently, unable to find their prized cattle, the angry cattle rearers who hail from northern part of Nigeria, got to a nearby military barracks and narrated their ordeals to some soldiers who also hail from northern Nigeria.

Armed with their guns, the soldiers stormed the village of Elele. CEHRD cannot confirm whether the soldiers had official permission to do so. On arrival at the village, the soldiers threatened the locals to produce the cattle, but the villagers, who were not armed, vexed by such approach throw verbal abuses on the soldiers, a fracas ensued, and bullets roared from the soldier's gun, and three persons including a policeman were killed.