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Killing of robbery suspect sparks row in Delta

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•Mob sets police post ablaze, damages eight cars

AN angry mob yesterday set the Ebrumede Police Post, Effurun, Uvwie Local Government Area of Delta State, on fire over an alleged killing of a robbery suspect by the police.

The mob, mostly motorcyclists, popularly known as Okada riders, also freed some suspects who were detained in the station.

They also damaged about eight vehicles parked at the premises, including a Mercedes Benz car, which was completely razed down.

Sources said that the police were hapless when the mob stormed the station destroying anything on sight.

It was gathered that policemen on duty fled from the station, when they saw the surging crowd who were armed with clubs.

Trouble started when the Okada riders allegedly thought that the suspect, who was shot by the police was one of them.

The suspect was allegedly killed by the police after he snatched a hand bag and was fleeing from the scene.

The suspect had boarded an Okada when the residents the raised alarm, which attracted the police at a checkpoint close to the Ebrumede Police Post, who fired a shot which killed the suspect instantly.

Residents of the area decried the inability of the police authority to curtail the incessant crisis at the station, saying that policemen at the station were always causing trouble in the area.

The council Chairman, Mr Peter Abugewa, who confirmed the incident, yesterday, however, condemned the unwarranted action of the Okada riders, who invaded the station on the ground that a robbery suspect was allegedly killed.

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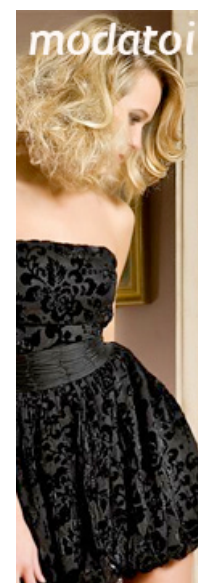

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