

Murder: Police arrest 7 youths in Anambra

ANAMBRA state police command has arrested seven Amanuke youths that waylaid a team of the Nigerian police on official routine investigation visit and killed two with others scampering for safety on December 1, during a fracas between the Elders and the youths over who controls the affairs of the community. The weapons seized from the police including three AK 47 assault rifles and a leg chain have been recovered. Since December 1 2006

Amanuke in Awka North local government area of Anambra state has been a ghost of itself as only goats and other domestic animals took charge of the community when occupants fled for fear of police reprisal attack. Public shools and

institutions in the community closed down since that incident and families are suffering untold hardship due to the incidents. There has been public outcry against the incidence while indigenes of the community expressed fear of police reprisal despite assurance by the police commissioner that no such thing will happen, even as he released some elders detained when they went to report the case. The community leaders, entered into an agreement with the police to fish out all the criminal elements who perpetrated the dastardly act on the police while urging the commissioner to control his officers and men now laying siege on the community from indiscriminate arrests and unleashing of reprisal attacks on the people who

started returning three weeks after the incident. Though youths are yet to return, pregnant women, children, old men and women and some religious fanatics exiled initially or sojourning inside thick forests or their relatives elsewhere are now coming back home, commending those who brokered peace with the police authorities. When contacted the state commissioner of police Mr Haruna John assured the people of Amanuke that, despite the offence the act constituted, the community is not under police siege as the command is practising policing with a human face" and gave the names of the slain policemen as Inspector Cyril Ossai, 45 and Constable Sunday Okorie, 37.