

He also called on the long time."

Soldiers killed in Rivers cult clash

From Victor Edozie, Port Harcourt.

The 2 Brigade Command of the Nigerian Army, Port Harcourt, Rivers State, said yesterday that some of its soldiers lost their lives in the recent cult clash that occurred in both Ikwerre and Emuoha local government areas of Rivers State.

More than 20 persons were killed in a rival cult clash which occurred in Aluu, Emuoha and Obite communities of Rivers State last weekend.

The 2 Brigade Command Public Relation Officer, Capt Lazarus Eli, in a statement issued in Port Harcourt, said the

dead soldiers were part of the team that responded to distress calls to prevent the situation from degenerating.

"Amongst the deaths are some of our personnel who were part of the team that responded to distress calls to prevent the situation from degenerating. Preliminary investigation revealed that these barbaric and condemnable acts were cult wars of dominance between Icelanders and other cult groups. This is seemingly motivated by the quest for economic advantage suspected to be connected to oil theft and illegal bunkering activities," Eli said.