



National

Gunmen kill vigilante commander in Rivers

By Obinna Nwaoku, Port Harcourt

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There was panic yesterday in Obelle community in Emohua Local Council of Rivers State, following the killing of the Commander of a local vigilante known as the Onelga Security Peace Advisory Committee (OSPAC), Anayo Amos, by suspected members of a cult gang terrorising the area.

The Guardian gathered that the fully armed hoodlums opened fire on the deceased alongside the general commander of OSPAC in Emohua council, Isa Mohammed.

A member of the local vigilante, who confirmed the killing, explained that members of the gang had shot several times at their targets and the bullets failed to penetrate their bodies.

He said the gunmen took the victim to an undisclosed location where they eventually killed Amos and Mohammed managed to escape.

According to the source, the killing of the commander had increased tension in the community as residents fled. It was however gathered that the gunmen were provoked by the deceased, who in collaboration with the vigilante from Omoku (a Community in Ogba/Egbema/Ndoni Local Council), had called on residents of Ibaa and Obelle to return home.

He said: “Following the presence of Omuku OSPAC on the invitation of the Emohua Council authorities to assist in fighting criminal elements in the area, the commander requested residents of the two communities to return. I believed the move was what provoked the bad boys to come for him.”

Contacted, the spokesperson for Rivers State Police Command, Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP), Grace Iringe-Koko, could not confirm the incident, stating that she was yet to be briefed.

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