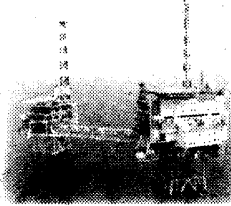


iger Delta

MOUTH OF THE SOUTH



Our expansion
in Delta ordered
by God – Ebireri



PAGE 20 »

ndent.com.ng

Uwherun, herdsmen crisis claims two

By Sunday Apah

Special Correspondent, Ughelli •

• Rape cases rise

CRISIS is currently looming in Uwheru community, Ughelli North Local Government Area, Delta State, following alleged killing and raping of Uwherun community women by Hausa cattle rearers on Monday last week.

A source said the crisis started at about 12 noon, Monday last week and later led to a serious traffic grid on the East/West road as passengers and drivers scamped for safety, following a shootout

between the warring groups.

Our correspondence gathered that two headless bodies of indigenes of Uwheru were found in the bush in the last three days and women of the community were also allegedly being raped in the bush either on their way to their farms or their way back by the suspected Hausa and Fulani herdsmen.

A community source said that after discovering the second headless corpse mobilized into the bush

and alleged that the Hausa/Fulani settlers were being guarded by soldiers, saying that that one of the soldiers suspected to be guarding the cattle rearers was shot on the leg during the cross fire.

The source, who preferred anonymity, stated that the soldier was rushed to a nearby hospital by his colleagues who came for peace keeping, adding that two soldiers were seen with a 'Ghana Must Go' bag suspected to have contained ammunitions going into the

Agadama-Uwheru bush about two weeks ago.

The source that was visibly angry lamented that the Fulani settlers were claiming equal ownership with indigenes of the community and that they (Fularis/Hausas headsmen) have vowed to remain in the bush and that no amount of force or intimidation would make them leave the bush.

Col. Timothy Antiga, spokesman of the Joint Task Force "Operation Pulo Shield" in a text message

said; they are currently helping to calm down the situation following a conflict which erupted earlier (today) yesterday between Fulani cattle men and indigenous people in Ohorho-Uwheru Community in Ughelli North of Delta State.

"There is an allegation that some Fulani people killed two men in the community before absconding into the bush. The JTF implores all to remain calm and allow an investigation into the matter."

As at the time of writing this report, the situation was being put under control by a combined team of security agents. ✱