

SPDC FUELLING CRISIS IN ODIMODI COMMUNITY

We are still finding it very hard to comprehend what SPDC stands to benefit as a company if Odimodi Community in Burutu local govt. area of Delta State, Nigeria - a peace loving community, hosting one of SPDC's Crude Oil terminal (Forcados terminal) plunge into a full blown war that will lead to the loss of lives and properties of its own indigenes. This is exactly the same situation we found ourselves in 2011 that led to the death of some of our future leaders and properties worth millions of naira destroyed. Odimodi community will never forget the agony and grief brought upon us by the said SPDC induced crisis. The memories of faces and voices gone forever are still fresh in our minds. We will not forget the injuries to our community and SPDC that inflicted it. If however, SPDC expect the Odimodi community of today to sit patiently until the very last day when same calamity will be repeated again - when SPDC will create and sponsor handful of loosely affiliated miscreants within the community and set them against the community then they are mistaking the Odimodi of today for the Odimodi of before 2001. "for he who declares himself ready to pull the chestnuts out of the fire, must realize that he burns his fingers also". At this juncture, we wish to state emphatically clear that, SPDC through the community

interface co-ordinator, the community relations co-ordinator, the community relations officer, and others have become so desperate to instigating some local elders and chiefs against the current

authentic and democratically elected executive council of Odimodi Community. They have even gone to the extent of blackmailing and arm-twisting the Executive council of the community just to have their way in the community. They are delving too deep into our community affairs and politics. As far as we and other relevant stakeholders in the Niger Delta region are concerned, SPDC's business in forcados terminal is a complete fraud shrouded in secrecy and deception. If it is not, why is SPDC neck-deep on discrediting the legitimate executive council of the community that has better understanding of the Odimodi issues and tactically avoiding them, thereby working with their cohorts in order to impose on the community a Global memorandum of

understanding (GMOU) document already rejected by the community for long and other sundry issues. Why put the lives of the present executive council on line by making them be at loggerheads with their brothers and sisters which they (SPDC) have succeeded in buying off. They are currently recruiting jobless youths in the community after inducing them with money and cow gifts with the sole aim of unlashing terror against the executive council and causing maybem in the community, just to have their way in their illicit business in the forcados terminal. Perhaps, this is typical of SPDC in everywhere they operate, especially in this part of the world, where they always project "profit first before and above the lives and wellbeing of those concerned.

Let it be known to all that the crisis rocking Odimodi community is caused by SPDC. SPDC has failed to carry out its responsibility in addressing the issue of employment, environmental degradation and many other atrocities committed in Odimodi land. We simply cannot understand why SPDC is shying away from its corporate social responsibility?

Why all these clandestine activities in Odimodi community? why is SPDC fond of using the back door to pursue and actualize their "profit - profit oriented" objectives in their exploration and production activities to the detriment of the host community, especially in this part of the world? When will this stop?

In a bid to cement their devilish hold on the community, on Sunday 30th August, 2015, they succeeded in mobilizing arms and

ammunitions to the community and thereafter, attacks on innocent indigenes proceeded.

It may interest the reading public to note that, these same anti-community miscreants and their group after disobeying the humane order of the commanding officer of NNS Delta to maintain peace, mobilized to the community in their numbers with arms and ammunition to overthrow the legitimate executive council. In the process, several threat to lives of the EXCO members and others were issued by the above mentioned names and their gangs and to actualize their threat, the next day, 27th July, 2015, one Mr. Deinyefa Angeyama was attacked and shot. A petition was accordingly forwarded to force Headquarters, Abuja. Immediately these miscreants and their group were invited to force Headquarters for interview and in a bid for them to tactically avoid the police invitation, they quickly mobilized to community on Sunday 30th August, 2015 to cause an unstable situation in order to divert attention.

We use this medium to call on the management of SPDC to set up a high powered forensic investigation panel to thoroughly investigate its staffers in the community relations department in forcados terminal and whoever found guilty be brought to book.

Finally and most importantly, we demand for immediate employment of our graduates and teeming youths. We also warn that SPDC should desist from interfering with our community affairs and politics in order for peace to reign.

Because, peace in Odimodi Community is peace in Forcados terminal.

To be forewarned, is to be forearmed.

For: Odimodi Community

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