

NEWS

Two killed in renewed communal battle in Bayelsa

From Isaac Ombe
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LESS than 24 hours after the visit of Bayelsa State Deputy Governor, Peremobwei Ebebi to the war-torn communities of Egweama and Liama in Brass LGA of the state where he pleaded and warned against further attacks on each other, at least two persons have been reportedly killed in Monday afternoon's gun attacks.

The Deputy Governor and other top government officials visited the two communities on Sunday afternoon where he also expressed surprise that even Egweama, the community hosting the Naval Base was attacked and persons killed and wounded.

At the visit, the council of chiefs of both communities were warned

against further gun battle and promised to fortify the area with military and mobile police force. But there had been no additional security in the area as at the time of the Monday attack.

The Monday gun battle, impeccable sources disclosed, occurred when the militant youths of both communities clashed at the battle field around the footpath leading to areas of the ancient communities to both Egweama and Liama known as Egweama-Ogbo and Liama-Ogbo.

The source said that both communities had claimed to have lost one person each in the battle but only Liama community was able to show the body of their person as

evidence but Egweama could not prove the whereabouts of the body of its deceased.

"Liama community showed the body of the person that died during the battle but we could not see that of Egweama's body", noted the source who expressed worry that the two communities were out for a total attack against each other.

He called on the state government to quickly send reinforcement to the area, saying, I am in Yenagoa to appeal for more re-enforcement to stem the destruction of lives and properties.

Emerald Oil Company located on the land belonging to the two communities and others have continued to ignite communal clashes among the communities in the area.