

# Two killed in fight over traditional stool

From Inlobong Ekponta, Uyo

**T**WO people were shot dead and one seriously injured last weekend as the tussle over the Obongship of Edem Akai in Etim Ekpo Local Government, Akwa Ibom State spread to the neighbouring villages of Udianga Enem and Ikot Udobong.

Some hoodlums, armed with guns, including AK-47, invaded Udianga Enem last Thursday in search of a man and his gang members who were said to have set on fire the house of the late Obong of Edem Akai, Chief Friday Ifum, it was learnt.

They also vandalised the home of Obong Monday Ifum, who succeeded his brother in 2001, and chased him away.

Socio-economic activities have been grounded in Edem Akai in the last four months. The only primary school in the village has been shut.

Worried by the development, the caretaker chairman of the village, Hon. Idongesit Udokang, organised a manhunt for the man who was also accused of having led a group of hoodlums to attack his residence two weeks ago.

The hoodlums again stormed Ikot Udobong village on Saturday.

It was during the attack that the three casualties were recorded.

The youth leader, Mr. Ndipmo Jeremiah, said the hoodlums invaded the compound at about 1.00a.m. and immediately stormed a house where they shot and killed the victims.

When *The Nation* visited the village, the two bodies were yet to be buried. The third person, who was shot in the thigh, is still receiving treatment at Akwabia Hospital, Obong Ntak.

The police team from Etim Ekpo said the matter was still being investigated.