

chairman to another without court issue."

Gunmen invade Bayelsa community

• Kill woman, destroy houses

■ Mike ODIEGWU, Yenagoa ■

ONE woman was killed and several houses destroyed on Thursday night when gunmen invaded the Ekeni community in Southern Ijaw Local Government Area of Bayelsa State.

The heavily armed men were said to have arrived the community on four speedboats at about 10pm, shooting sporadically to scare the people away, and operated unchallenged for about one hour.

And eyewitness, who spoke with our correspondent on condition anonymity, said the gunmen fired shots into people's homes and set fire to houses before looting them.

"They arrived at about 10pm and started firing into homes. They set fires to house and looted them."

A security source described the attack as massive and unprecedented.

"They arrived under the cover of darkness with the mission to terrorize the community. They shot heavily and threw the community into disarray. It was unexpected.

"A woman was hit by a bullet. It is a serious matter", the source who pleaded anonymity said.

It was also learnt that the gunmen removed engines from boats parked at the waterfront by the residents.

Though nobody has been arrested in connection with the attack, the residents are said to be pointing accusing fingers at a neighbouring community, leading to fears of reprisal attacks in the area.

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