

NEWS

Pirates, cultists kill two in Bayelsa

• Injured policeman

RAMPAGING pirates and cultists have struck in Bayelsa State, killing two in Ekeki, Yenagoa, and the Akassa-Yenagoa waterways.

About 10 cultists shot and robbed people of cash and valuables in Ekeki 7.30 pm on Wednesday.

Business owners were said to have shut down their shops.

A victim simply identified as Ifiemie, 30-year-old son of an Ekeki chief, was reportedly shot dead.

A policeman was also shot

From Mike Odiegwu,
Yenagoa

by the hoodlums. The unidentified policeman, in mufti, was said to be coming out of the salon.

He hails from Ndoni in Rivers State; he reportedly struggled with the cultists who wanted to collect his phone and cash.

The policeman is responding to treatment at an undis-

closed hospital.

A victim of the attack by pirates, identified simply as Asuku, ex-Chairman of the Maritime Workers' Union (MWU) in Akassa, was killed when their boat came under attack.

Police spokesman Asinim Butswat confirmed the killings but said he not been briefed on the pirate incident.

"The boy was killed as a result of a cult clash. Our earlier

investigations linked the dead victim to one of the cult groups.

"The policeman was coming out of a barber's salon when hoodlums, passing by, struck. They dispossessed him of his phone because he was off duty. He tried to resist but they shot him. He is responding to treatment", he said.

Asuku was killed barely 24 hours after the death of a boat operator on the Sangana-Igbe-motoru waterways.

NSCDC arrests two 'fake' pastors in Ondo