

Policeman killed as cult leader's death sparks violence in Bayelsa

A POLICE Seargeant was at the weekend gunned down in Bayelsa State following a supremacy war between two notorious secret cults. It was gathered that apart from the killing of the policeman whose name was kept under wraps, a suspected cultist was also killed in the battle. The supremacy battle, which created tension in some parts of Yenagoa, the state capital, was reportedly caused by the killing of a leader of one of the cult groups, the Greenlanders.

The cult leader, nicknamed Arrow, was said to have been killed at

From Mike Odiegwu,
Yenagoa

Gwegwe area of Yenagoa by a rival cult group identified as the Icelanders. His fellow cult members reportedly vowed to avenge his death, a situation that led to bloody clashes in some parts of the capital city. Security sources said the police Seargeant was not on duty when he was killed at Otio junction in Yenagoa. But an eye witness, who spoke in confidence, however, said he was killed by a stray bullet fired by waring cultists.

Following the death of Arrow, his members took

over the streets of Kpansia, Otio and chasing their rival members. They were also raiding and shooting. Their actions created panic and made people to scamper for safety", he said. The source said the Seargeant only came to eat at a canteen located at the junction when he was hit by the bullet. "He was immediately rushed to the hospital but he couldn't survive it. He was confirmed dead on arrival at the hospital", he said.

He added: "The police and other security agencies including the army are working to arrest the suspected cultists". When contacted, the

state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Asinim Butswat, said he was yet to be briefed on the development.

Navy destroys over

THE Navy Ship (NNS) Delta State said yesterday it had destroyed over 134 illegal refining sites in the state in the last one and a half weeks. The Commander of the NNS Delta, Commodore Ibrahim Dewu, told reporters at Jibo, Warri South-West that illegal refining sites in the community alone covered a stretch of more than four