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Wednesday, December 23, 2009 (NIGERIA) 03 : 06								
<h2>Three Feared Dead in Community Clash</h2> <p><i>Etoro-Obong Inyang, Uyo</i></p> <p>Three members of Abama community in Obot Akara local government area, Akwa Ibom state lost their lives when insurgents from neighbouring community in Ikwano local government area in Abia State attacked the area in a renewed boundary clash. Deputy Governor of Akwa Ibom, Engr. Patrick Ekpotu who led members of the state boundary commission on a visit to Abama community vowed that the present administration will not allow annexation of any land belonging to the State by people of its neighbouring states.</p> <p>Ekpotu, who is the chairman of the state boundary commission, condemned the recent attack by people suspected to have come from Ikwano in Abia state. The deputy governor who was represented by Mr. Michael Eyo, a permanent secretary in his office assured the people of Abama community that the state government was taking steps to ensure their protection from 'external aggressors'.</p> <p>Charging the people to always be prompt in reporting suspected movements to security operatives with a view to nipping external aggression in the bud, for the good of society, he urged them to support the peace initiative of the State Government, which he emphasized, would bring a lasting solution to border conflicts.</p> <p>The Deputy Governor condoled with the community over the loss of three persons during the attack, and pleaded with the people of Abama not to exhaust their patience thereby contemplating a reprisal attack. He told the community that the state government had made a high powered representation to the Abia State government for a possible to curbing the recurrent clashes.</p> <p>The Chairman of Obot Akara local government area, Shilling Paul, while speaking, commended the timely visit of the Deputy Governor to the community. He restated that no portion of Obot Akara land would be ceded, even in the face of intimidation by neighbouring communities. He appealed for quick action by the state government to forestall a repeat of the attack and to enable members of the community engage in their farming activities without fear of further attack.</p> <p>Mr. Paul that his administration and his counterpart from Ini Local government, Obong Boniface Essien, recently initiated a peace meeting with their counterparts in Abia State, only for the latest attack to occur again.</p> <p>On his part, the paramount ruler of Obot Akara, HRM, Okuku Uwa Umoh Adiaka asked that a more practical approach be employed by the State government in its attempt to check the incessant attacks on the community by people of neighbouring Abia State. He maintained that the visit of the Deputy Governor had pacified the people of Abama and helped to put on hold, imminent reprisal on the aggressors.</p> <p>Next Page >></p> <p>Copyright © 2009 Niger Delta Standard, All rights reserved.</p>								