

The suspected robber, Samuel Okechukwu

gang accosted one James Eke along Pound Road, interrogated by the police, Okechukwu confessed to the driver to come down,

Suspected cultist killed in shootout with police in Akwa Ibom

INI OBONG EKPONTA - UYO

AS security forces move in to restore peace in the troubled Ikot Udobong community in Etim Ekpo Local Government Area of Akwa Ibom State, one person has been reported killed as hoodlums clashed with the police.

In the last couple of weeks, the Ikot Udobong community had been under siege by opposing cult groups over the recent killing of a youth leader of the area, one Sunday Jeremiah, last Friday.

In reprisal attacks that followed, *Metro* learnt more killings were recorded on Monday, forcing the police to move into the community, with the arrest of one of the suspected gang members, while others fled.

To rescue their men, members of the gang, according to sources, ambushed the police van carrying the suspect at the Edem Akai portion of the Iwykem-Afahaabong high way, where they engaged them in a shootout.

One of the policemen, according an eyewitness in Edem Akai community,

was shot in the hand. The source added "when the police responded, one of the cultists was killed".

It was gathered men of the Joint Task Force (JTF), comprising mobile policemen and soldiers who later joined in the operation, overpowered the gang and took the

corpse in their van.

The Commissioner of Police, Mr Donald Awunah, said peace had returned to the area, but would not confirm the casualty figure.

The chairman of the local Government, Honourable Udeme Wilson Eduo, who spoke with

Metro, corroborated the police commissioner's position, saying all security machineries had been put in place to return peace to the troubled community.

In the last couple of weeks, several cult-related killings had occurred in Ikot Udobong

community and its environs, forcing local residents to live in perpetual fear.

"Right now, it is dangerous for one to be outside after 7:00pm, Enobong Essien who fled the community to the neighbouring Ikot Obioma village told *Metro*.

Man kills 81-year-old mother over late sister's m

OLALEKAN OLABULO - LAGOS

A 51-year-old man, Oluwaseye Ayoola, has allegedly axed his 81-year-old mother, Mrs Dorcas Ayoola, to death in an incident that has become a subject of investigation to the police in Lagos State.

The incident happened at United Estate in Sangotedo area of Ajah on Tuesday evening, and the suspect initially escaped before he was later arrested by the police.

Metro gathered that the woman was killed by her son for her refusal to part with N500,000 from the will of one of her daughters.

The suspect, alleged to be an unserious person, had reportedly demanded the money from his late sister's will.

When contacted, the state Police Public Relations Officer, Superintendent

of Police Dolapo Badmos, confirmed the arrest of the suspect to *Metro*.

According to reports, Oluwaseye had on Tuesday evening accosted his mother and demanded for his share of his sister's property.

The mother was said to have insisted that she was not going to give the money to the suspect, leading to a serious argument between them.

The suspect initially told the police that he only pushed the woman and that she fell and hit her head on the ground.

Preliminary investigations by the police however showed that the suspect used an axe to kill the octogenarian.

Badmos told *Metro* that the suspect was arrested after his younger brother reported the incident to the

police at Ogombo police station.

According to her, the younger brother to the suspect, one Akintunde Ayoola of United Estate, Sangotedo, Ajah, Lagos State came to the station on February 7 at about 11:15p.m., and reported that at about 4:00p.m. on same date, he got information that his brother, Oluwaseye manhandled his mother over her failure to release an undisclosed amount of money.

"On arrival at the scene, the younger brother found his mother dead in a pool of her blood," the Lagos police spokesperson said.

She added that the command's detectives from Ogombo Division launched a manhunt for the suspect and he was subsequently arrested.

Badmos also told *Metro* that "upon interrogation, the suspect confessed that

he had gone to his mother to ask for some money but she refused to part with the money.

The suspect, Oluwaseye