Cultists invade telco office in Bayelsa, kill customer

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HUNDREDS of armed cultists at about 3:00 p.m. on Monday invaded the commercial office of telecommunications firm, MTN, along DSP Alameiseigha Way in Yenagoa, the Bayelsa State capital, and killed a customer who was alleged to be a rival cult member.

The murdered customer, identified as Victor Abasi (28), was a native of Ogu town in Yenagoa Local Government Area of the state.

It was gathered that the de-ceased was reportedly placed on wanted list by members of the cult group, Greanlanders, over his alleged involvement in a bloody clash in Swali area of the state capital early in the year.

An eyewitness told the *Nigerian Tribune* that the de-ceased had almost finished with his documentation on SIM card validation when the cultists got to the office and went after him.

The source said: "He was wearing dreadlocks. Sud-denly, we noticed that some armed boys invaded the MTN office and we took to our heels. The target jumped out and scaled the fence, but the cultists went after him and hacked him with differ-ent weapons.

"It was later gathered that the deceased was a sus-pected member of the group known as Bobos.

"Already, the killing has snowballed into a battle be-tween the Greanlanders and Bobos in Amarata, Ekeki, Swali and other areas of the state capital."

A resident of Imgbi Road, who pleaded anonymity, claimed that armed Bobos members invaded the area on Monday night in search of members of rival groups.

The source said: "They said some cult members killed their 'Senior man' and they are out to retaliate."

The rival cult groups, with bases at Tombia and Am-arata areas, had in the last few days, engaged in bloody clashes over revenue collec-tion and battle for suprem-acy.