

Irate youths kill DPO, one other

Sola Adebayo, Warri

THE Divisional Police Officer in charge of 'B' Division, Ughelli, Delta State, Mr. Nnamdi Ngwakor, and a police inspector attached to the station were on Thursday, killed by armed youths of Afisere Community in Ughelli North Local Government Area.

Our correspondent learnt that Ngwakor, a superintendent of police, and his subordinate were killed on their way to quell a communal clash between Afisere and Ekuigbo communities.

It was learnt that Ngwakor left his office in company with the inspector to obtain first hand information on the clash, before he was ambushed at Afisere Junction by armed youths who opened fire on his car.

They reportedly died on the spot while the armed youths fled the scene.

Their remains had been deposited in the morgue of a private hospital in Ughelli.

The Delta State Police Command was instantly thrown into mourning as the information about the incident filtered into the its headquarters in Asaba and divisional headquarters in the 25 local government areas of the state.

Ngwakor's division was created early this year by the state Commissioner of Police, Delta State Command, Mr. Udom Ekpoudom.

Our correspondent could not ascertain the cause of the clash between the two communities which attracted the intervention of the deceased as at the time of filing this report.

However, our correspondent learnt that riot policemen have been deployed in the area on the order of Ekpoudom to fish out the fleeing youths.

Uneasy calm reigned in the town at press time on Thursday evening as residents fled in scores to neighbouring communities for fear of reprisal attack by the police.

Ekpoudom, who confirmed the report, described the action of the youths as barbaric.

The police boss said he

had directed that the murderers be fished out by all means.

According to him, the DPO on receipt of information about the communal clash decided to personally visit the trouble spots in order to prevail on the combatants to embrace peace.

"They (armed youths) ambushed and killed them for no just cause. We (police) must look for the murderers and I have directed that they must be fished out," he said.

... as policemen kill robbery suspects

Fidelis Soriwei, Owerri

MEN of the Imo State Police Command have killed three robbery suspects and injured another during a gun battle with the hoodlums.

Speaking in an interview with our correspondent in Owerri, on Thursday, the command's Public Relations Officer, Mr. Isah Mohammed, a deputy superintendent of police, said the suspects were killed during a gun duel at a filling-station at the boundary between Isiala-Mbano and Ehime-Mbano local government areas of the state.

According to him, the headquarters of the command got a distress call from the divisional police officer in charge of Ikeduru Local Government Area about a robbery operation that was going on in the area on Monday.

Police authorities therefore dispatched two patrol vehicles to the area.

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Mohammed said the robbery suspects, who got wind of the presence of the policemen, later relocated to the filling-station.

It was at that point that they had the encounter with the joint team of the police and soldiers who were on their trail.

He alleged that members of the four-man robbery gang opened fire on the members of the combined team at Ahiazu Junction on their way to the filling-station where they shot the owner on the thigh.

Mohammed said while two of the suspects were injured and later died at the command's headquarters, the third was found in the bush when the police went to comb the area.

He said the fourth member of the gang was still at large as he escaped into the bush with injuries.

Man caught with human skull

Olalekan Adetayo

MEN of the Lagos State Police Command, on Wednesday, arrested a man with a dry human skull.

The suspect, Zubuiké Madubuchi, a resident of Anibaba Street, Ketu, was arrested by anti-robbery policemen attached to Alakuko Division.

The command's Public Relations Officer, Mr. Olubode Ojajuni, a deputy superintendent of police, confirmed the man's arrest to our correspondent on Thursday.

Ojajuni said the policemen intercepted the suspect

at about 1.25pm while on patrol.

He said the men decided to stop the suspect for a search when they observed that he was not comfortable at the sight of the policemen.

He said the suspect was carrying a polythene bag as at the time of his arrest.

"During a search, one dry human skull was found in the suspect's possession. He had made useful statement that is helping the police in our investigation," the police spokesman said.

Meanwhile, the police have started investigating an

inferno that claimed the life of a lady identified as Nneka Nwayowu in Lagos on Monday.

According to the report made at Ijeshatedo police station, the fire broke out at 28, Sanusi Street, Ijeshatedo at about 3am.

Before fire fighters and policemen drafted to the scene could put out the fire, 30-year-old Nwayowu had lost her life.

Ojajuni said apart from the casualty, the cause of the fire and value of property destroyed were yet to be estimated.