

Poll: 11 killed in Delta

Sola Adebayo, Warri

ELEVEN persons, including two policemen, were killed in different parts of Delta State during last Saturday's governorship and House of Assembly elections, findings by our correspondent have revealed.

Also, nine buildings were razed by arsonists in the state on the fateful day.

Specifically, three corpses, two males and a female, were recovered from two buildings

belonging to a commissioner in the state, Mr. Evans Iwhurie, in Abraka, home town of the governorship candidate of the Democratic Peoples Party, Chief Great Ogboru.

The remains of the deceased, identified as relations of Iwhurie, were recovered when fire was put out in the buildings.

Similarly, two policemen died at Warri and Ughelli, while others sustained fatal gunshot injuries at Effurun, Ughelli and Warri.

Stray bullets killed one person in Jakpa Junction, Effurun, while another person was killed at the residence of the President-General of Udu Improvement Union, Chief Poge Otirikpe, along Orhunwhorun Road, in Udu Local Government Area of the state.

Two persons also reportedly died as a result of gunshot injuries at Ughelli General Hospital.

Information gathered at the Delta State Police Command's headquarters in Asaba, revealed that nine buildings, including those belonging to Iwhurie, Otirikpe and Special Adviser to the Governor in Government House Matters, Chief Omeni Sobotie, were razed in the mayhem following Saturday's elections.

It was learnt that the offices of the Independent National Electoral Commission at Obiaroko, Isiokolo and Orerokpe, were also torched by arsonists, protesting the conduct of the elections.

Twelve persons, including five policemen, were injured by thugs while the police lost five rifles to hoodlums on Saturday.

The Police Public Relations Officer, State Command, Miss Olabisi Okuwobi, however, confirmed that 17 persons were arrested in connection with the political crisis on Saturday.

Okuwobi said the suspects and their sponsors would be prosecuted in accordance with the law.

Protests greet Delta poll results

Sola Adebayo, Warri

REACTIONS continued to trail Saturday's governorship and House of Assembly elections in Delta State on Monday as Urhobo women protested the declaration of the governorship candidate of the Peoples Democratic Party, Mr. Emmanuel Uduaghan, as governor-elect.

The protest took place in Warri.

The women, who carried placards and green leaves, walked through major streets of the city, insisting that the elections were not held in the state on Saturday.

The women took to the streets less than 24 hours after the Ijaw Stakeholders Forum, headed by a former Minister of Information, Chief Edwin Clark, described Saturday's elections in the state as "a political robbery."

The ISF said elections were not held in the six local govern-

ments on the elections, adding that INEC was mandated to deliver Uduaghan at all costs even if it was against the wishes of the people.

She urged INEC to review its position and void the election, adding that the declaration of Uduaghan was undemocratic.

The women were, however, dispersed by some Uduaghan's loyalists along the NPA Bypass, on their way to Delta Rainbow Television, Warri.

But, a member of Uduaghan Campaign Organisation, who craved anonymity, described the protesters as a hired crowd, adding that Uduaghan was overwhelmingly supported in the eight local government areas in Urhobo axis of the state.

He said the protesters were sponsored by a few elite, who were opposed to the candidature of Uduaghan and urged people and residents of the state not to allow themselves to be used by some self-seeking leaders.