

Militants attack police station, kill three

**Ibanga Isine,
Port Harcourt**

SUSPECTED militants in the early hours of the Christmas day, invaded Akinama Police Station in Ahoada West Local Government of Rivers State and killed three policemen.

The development had violated the ceasefire, earlier declared by the Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta during the yuletide.

A source told our correspondent that the militants stormed the police station at about 1.30 am and immediately opened fire on the policemen on duty.

The source added that due to the abrupt nature of the attack, the few officers who were on duty fell to the superior fire power of the gunmen.

He also said that those who were not caught in the gun duel escaped, while the militants ransacked the station's armoury for arms and ammunition.

He said, "The militants took the officers by surprise.

"And it was difficult for anybody to repel the attack. They shot at anybody in sight as soon as they entered the station.

"After gunning down three officers on duty, they broke into the armoury but were

surprised that it contained no arms and ammunition which might have been their target."

It was further learnt that two of the policemen died at the station while the third later died in a hospital where he was taken for treatment.

When contacted, the Police Commissioner, Rivers State Command, Mr. Felix

Ogbaudu, confirmed the story.

The police commissioner, who was visibly touched by the incident, however said that he was waiting for the Divisional Police Officer for Ahoada West to brief him on the attack.

Ogbaudu added that the attack might have been carried out by suspected militants in the state.

Ben Obi calls for scrapping of INEC

**Adelani Adepegba,
Enugu**

THE Vice-Presidential candidate of the Action Congress in the April poll, Senator Ben Obi, has called for the scrapping of the Independent National Electoral Commission.

Obi also demanded the removal of the INEC Chairman, Prof. Maurice Iwu, as part of the electoral reforms in the country.

Obi, who spoke to journalists on Tuesday, also called on law enforcement agencies to prosecute the INEC boss, as he described him as the chief culprit behind the fraudulent April elections.

He said that the masses had lost confidence in the electoral process on account of the malpractices that marred the last general elections, insisting that only the scrapping of the electoral commission can restore that confidence.

He accused the former President Olusegun Obasanjo of killing the democratic party system through the INEC, and insisted on the prosecution of both Obasanjo and former Inspector-General of Police, Sunday Ehindero.

Obi also said that the electoral reform could not be meaningful without the cleansing of the electoral body and the police, adding that the process should be gradual to achieve its goals.

The AC chieftain advocated a two-party system for the country, saying the development would reduce the confusion associated with the multi-party system.

Commenting on the anti-corruption war, Obi blamed undue interference from the immediate past administration for the derailment of the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission.

Commending the anti-corruption war, he said the