

One killed, four buildings torched in Enugu community violence

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NO fewer than four buildings were razed by some youths protesting the alleged killing of one Ogochukwu Ngwu by policemen at Akwuke area of Enugu on Saturday.

Ngwu was said to have been killed when a team of policemen from Awkunanaw Police Division allegedly stormed the community and shot him during a mild protest at the palace of their traditional ruler.

The policemen were said to have been invited to prevent some youths in the community from packing sand from the Nyama stream at Akwuke Beach, by Mr. Benard Nwoye and Francis Ogbodo following the resistance of the youths to hand over the site to them.

The youths, who had been earning their income from the sand sales over the years, had refused to vacate the site.

They alleged that they were being intimidated by the two men and decided to march to the palace of their traditional ruler, Igwe Theodore Nwoye, to complain.

Police spokesman in the state, Mr. Ebere Amaraizu, however, denied that Ngwu was killed by his men, saying he died during the violence that erupted in the community between a faction loyal to the Igwe and the town union over leadership tussle.