Cultists kill 11, sack police station in Rivers

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Rivers State Police Commissioner, Mr. Musa Kimo

Friday Amobi, Port Harcourt

GUMEN suspected to be members of a cult group, in the early hours of Sunday, killed no fewer than 11 persons in Emohua Local Government Area of Rivers State.

About 19 persons were killed in Etche and Ikwerre Local Government Areas of the state on Saturday.

The cultists were said to have invaded three communities in the area; Rumuji, Ovogo and Rumuewhuo communities, killing 11 persons.

The bandits had earlier engage policemen in Rumuji Divisional Police Headquarters in a heavy shooting, later chased away officers on night shift and freed all the detainees in the cell.

The hoodlums, having gained access into the station also carted away guns and other weapons from the police armory.

A source privy to the development, who chose to remain anonymous revealed that the police station was taken over by the bandits.

A source in the area, who gave his name simply as Mr. Michael, noted that seven people were shot dead in Ovogo community, two in Rumuji and two others in Rumuewhuo communities.

Michael gave the names of some of the victims as Mr. Nature Oti, Ikechi, Onyebuchi Omuruka, Mr. Chima Omuruka, Mr. Lucky Okwakpam, Mr. Nyovele and others.

He said some residents of the three affected places had fled the areas.

"The residents of Ovogo community woke up this morning to witness a lot of dead bodies. There was much shooting last night.

"The entire of Ovogo, Rumuewhuo and Rumuji communities have been deserted because of fear.

When contacted, the Public Relations Officer of the Rivers State Police Command, Mr. Ahmad Muhammad said, "There was something like that, but no casualties on either sides."