

Two feared killed, houses burnt in fresh Akwa Ibom communal clash

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Akwa Ibom State Commissioner of Police, Andrew Amiengheme

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Two people have been feared killed, while property estimated at several millions of naira was burnt in a renewed communal violence between the Ammamong and Okopedi communities in the Okobo Local Government Area of Akwa Ibom State.

Long standing skirmishes between the two communities over land resurfaced on January 15, 2021, leading to loss of lives and property.

That crisis, The PUNCH gathered, was brought under control after engagement of stakeholders in the communities and the deployment of a tactical team by the state Commissioner of Police, Andrew Amienheme.

However, ongoing peace initiatives in the communities suffered a setback on Monday when one of the communities launched an early morning attack on the other.

A source said the attackers used different weapons, including AK-47 rifles, and destroyed both residential and commercial buildings.

“The attackers came in through a secondary school in the area and started shooting and setting houses ablaze. They used sophisticated weapons like AK-47 and destroyed both lives and property. Two persons were killed during the attack,” the source added.

The state Police Public Relations Officer, Odiko Macdon, did not take his calls or respond to text messages sent to his phone as of the time of filing this report.