

# Suspected cultists kill vigilante in Rivers

**Dennis Naku, Port Harcourt**

**T**HERE was tension in the Diobu area of Port Harcourt, the Rivers State capital, on Saturday night when gunmen suspected to be cultists shot dead a vigilante at Obidanso waterfront in the Mile 1 part of the metropolis.

It was gathered that members of the group known as Diobu Vigilante, accompanied by policemen acting on a tip-off about the activities of cult groups, stormed the waterfront at about 9pm.

A source revealed that upon arrival, the suspected gang members laid an ambush to attack a rival group in an ongoing war between two factions of a suspected cult group known as 'Deygbam'.

The source, who requested anonymity, said, "But when the suspected cultists spotted the security operatives, they opened fire, and a bullet hit the vigilante member named Orukwo, resulting in his death."

Meanwhile, our correspondent, who visited Orukwo's family house at Ekwulobia Street Mile 3 in Diobu, observed a large gathering of mourners.

In a similar development, suspected cultists believed to be the same assailants shot dead a man identified as 'Umo', an ex-member of the Diobu Vigilante, at about 11pm on Saturday at Kaduna Street D-Line in Port Harcourt.

It was gathered that the victim (Umo), alleged to be a member of a cult group, was expelled from the vigilante group over suspected criminal activities.

The source expressed suspicion that a rival cult group may have been responsible for Umo's killing, stating, "Because if you check, the same killing took place on Saturday night."

When contacted, the spokesperson of the State Police Command, Grace Iringe-Koko, confirmed the two incidents, stating that investigations were ongoing.

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