One killed as hostility looms in Warri

FROM EMMANUEL OGOIGBE, Warri

was feared dead yesterday in renewed hostilities at the Warri River axis at 911 Jetty in Ugborodo, Warri South West Local Government Area of Delta State. The villagers fingered a youth leader in the state as the chief culprit in the mayhem.

The incident happened in the early hours of Wednesday when armed youths said to be loyal to a PDP youth leader attacked youths who were on a security patrol along Escravos River in Ugborodo, a host community to Chevron Nigeria Limited.

It was gathered that the latest attack was not unconnected to a tussle in the oil-rich community over the leadership of Ugborodo Community Trust.

Already the villagers had deserted the town for the fear of reprisal attacks. from the other camp.

The gunmen, who invaded the community, were said to have gone away with the corpse of the victim identified as Sunny after he was shot several times in the chest. At the time journalists visited the village, the search for the corpse was still in progress.

One of the survivours, Mr. Romoe Mene, stated that six of them who were on guard in the area because of incessant oil bunkering were attacked by about seven armed youths of the community at the Jetty located in Akpakpa-Ajidabo village within the community. Mene alleged that the gunmen, who came in a speedboat, were led by a cousin to a top PDP youth leader.

He said the armed youths before shooting the victim, boasted that peace would be far from the community since they had decided to recognize another group in the community as their leader.

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