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Gunmen kill 8 in Port Harcourt



BY OUR REPORTER ON MARCH 22, 2015

COVER

FROM TONY JOHN, PORT HARCOURT

No fewer than eight persons were killed and many injured last Friday night, at different locations in Port Harcourt, Rivers State, when gunmen went on the rampage in the city.

Five persons were shot dead and scores wounded, when armed men stormed a popular bar before Amadi-Ama roundabout, in the Rivers State capital, and shot sporadically at the customers. The incident occurred at 11:30pm. Among those killed were a lady and military personnel. The clear identities of the victims could not be ascertained at press time.

A source, who lives in the area, said residents were awakened by heavy shooting at the drinking spot, which opens day and night. She said three corpses, which were not identified that night, were kept outside the bar till morning, and expended bullets littered the place.

Also, earlier that night, three persons were killed and another seriously wounded when two armed men struck in another area of Port Harcourt.

The three victims were simply identified as Ibiyene (a woman, who sells local gin, *kaikai*), Ekaki and Maxwell. The one who was injured was Tekena.

The incident happened at 9pm.

Sunday Sun gathered that the bandits, suspected to be cultists, came from old NEPA waterfront and shot the victims at Prime Rose Estate, Okrika waterfront, in the Port Harcourt metropolis. According to an eyewitness, who did not want to be mentioned, the perpetrators walked directly to the woman's drinking

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spot and opened fire at them. Three of the victims were said to have died on the spot.

The source said further that earlier in the day, a member of a vigilance group in the area, complained to him that some boys who live in the waterfront had confronted them (members of the vigilance group) that they were obstacles to their ‘business’ in the vicinity.

When *Sunday Sun* contacted the State Police spokesman, Ahmad Muhammad over the two incidents, he confirmed the shooting at the bar located at Amadi-Ama roundabout.

Muhammad said the brief he got showed that the hoodlums were suspected cultists.

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