

Cult clash claims 8 lives in Akwa Ibom

THE Police in Akwa Ibom have confirmed the death of eight people in a supremacy cult clash in Esit Eket Local Government Area of the state.

The State Police Public Relations Officer, SP Macdon Odiko confirmed the incident to journalists on Friday in Esit Eket.

Odiko said that the report got to him last week.

He said that the police were taking steps to ensure that they maintained law and order in council headquarters and its environs.

Two rival cult groups, Vikings Confraternity and Black Axe, had engaged in a clash of supremacy.

A source, who pleaded anonymity, told newsmen in Esit Eket that the clash started at a friend's night programme, when some boys accosted a Vikings carrying bag in his hands at midnight at Etebi in Esit Eket.

According to the source, the Black Axe group searched the bag and discovered that it contained locally made pistols, which they seized. The source said that the Vikings boy left in anger to meet his group and they re-enforced

to the friend's night programme at about 3.00 a.m. and killed one person from Black Axe at Etebia where the fracas started. It was gathered that four members of Vikings and four from Black Axe were killed in the clash that ensued thereafter.

Vandalism thro communities i

FROM **GEOFFREY ANYANWU**, ENUGU

NOT less than 50 communities in Enugu and Ebonyi States have been thrown into darkness following the activities of criminal elements, who vandalised Amechi-Awgu 33KV mainline, which supplies electricity to the affected communities.

The 33KV mainline, which is the property of the Enugu Electric-