

3 killed in Awka cult war as drug dealers, police clash

Okey Maduforo,
AWKA

Three persons have been confirmed dead during a cult war between two rival groups in Awka, the Anambra State capital, just as officers and men of the state Police Command and suspected drug dealers clashed during a raid by the security operatives in the area.

The clash between the drug dealers and the police which caused serious panic was said to have happened around 5.30pm on Saturday and drew the attention of passers-by and residents of the area who fled the area for safety.

An eyewitness told journalists yesterday in Awka that the police officers are suspected to have come from 'B' Division of Nigeria Police, Anambra Command and stormed the drug dealer's spot, conducting search and seized bags of illicit drugs.

The source who pleaded anonymity said, while the police was still on with the search, one of them made a telephone call and not long

after an army of thugs arrived the place.

According to the source, immediately the thugs arrived, they pounced on the police team, overpowered them and seized their guns and later retrieved the drugs they got from the place.

He said, "It was in the process of this attack that one of the policemen who drove the team vehicle there drove off. Not too long after, the police driver returned with other policemen who engaged the drug dealers in a discussion."

He said, it was not clear if they returned with the guns and ammunition to the police and that the incident dragged for more than two hours.

But a source within the police circle told reporters that the Division Police Officer (DPO) in-charge of 'B' Division, Michael Ojebe, allegedly detained two of the Inspectors involved in the operation.

Meanwhile, three persons were killed on Tuesday and yesterday by suspected cults at Ifite Awka and Eke Awka axis of Awka in what residents suspected to be renewed

cult war

While two were shot dead at Ifite Awka on Tuesday, another one was beheaded at Eke Awka Market area in the early hours of yesterday morning. The killing at the popular market, a trader said made many traders to abandon their businesses and return home out of fear.

Cult war in the popular Eke Awka market in Awka South Local Government Area of Anambra State to stamp supremacy claimed one live, simply identified as Igwe Omeli.

Three days after baby found alive

Daniel Atori,
MINNA

Three days after a six month old-baby boy, Chinedu Chukwueke, was abducted from his mother's salon shop at the popular Kure market, the toddler has been found alive in Suleja, Niger State.

The state Police Public Rela-