

Gunmen invade Rivers community, kill 4

Gunmen suspected to be cultists early yesterday invaded the Edeoha community in Aboada East Local Government Area of Rivers State and killed four residents.

It was learnt that the assailants suspected to be members of the Iceland cult group, stormed the community at about 2 am yesterday with sophisticated weapons, shooting endlessly.

It was further learnt that the gunmen went from house to house in search of their targets as residents scampered for safety for fear of being hit by a stray bullet.

A resident said stated, "The whole community was in confusion when they came and started shooting. Three of those killed are natives of Edeoha, while the other one is a native of Ekata community still in Aboada East LGA but resides in Edeoha.

"The suspected Iceland cult members who carried out the killing came from a camp in a neighbouring community to carry out the overnight killing at Edeoha.

"The people killed are not cult members but the attack is believed to have been carried out by

cultists who may have been paid to eliminate the four residents over some unclear issues."

Checks reveal that though Edeoha community is surrounded by creeks and rivers which hoodlums sometimes take advantage of, it is also accessible by road from the Nbaima-Ahoada highway.

When contacted, the spokesperson for the State Police Com-

mand, Grace Iringe-Koko, confirmed the incident, saying an investigation is ongoing.

"Yes, I can confirm. It is cult related. "The Commissioner of Police, Mohammed Mustapha, has directed the Ahoada Area Commander and the Divisional Police Officer to commence investigation into the incident to apprehend the perpetrators and make them face justice," she stated.

Vigilance group kills man for allegedly stealing bag containing lipstick, 2 cubes of maggi, N600

A suspected armed robber was gunned down at Awka, Anambra State yesterday, after stealing handbags from women heading to early morning church services.

The suspect, who was found with N600, lipstick, Nokia torch phone and 2 cubes of knoor cubes, was shot at about 6am around Bamboo bus stop, Ifite village in Awka.

A female victim (name withheld) who was returning from a popular joint in Awka where she had carried out her night duty, said the hoodlums numbering three robbed her of her phone and other items, but only one of them was gunned down while others escaped.

"I was coming back from work,

and one other girl who was going to church just came out of her gate, and the three men approached me and started asking what I had in my bag. The girl who was going to church saw them and flung her bag into the bush. They searched my bag and saw the phone and money and they took the bag.

"Then the other girl started running into her house. After collecting my bag, I was told to run without looking back. While I ran towards the bush, one of the robbers pursued me, the other two chased the other girl. While this was going on, a local security man emerged and shot at the robber, killing him, while the other two fled," she alleged.