

Militants Attack Oil Base, a Soldier Feared Killed

Militants yesterday attacked site 10, an oil firm under Agip, leaving a Soldier feared dead. The militants stormed the base at about 9.30 pm in a bus and fired sporadically at the soldiers on guard at company premises.

Major Sagir Musa when contacted, claimed not to have received the report.

In a related development, four persons have been confirmed killed and several others injured on the streets of Yenagoa, the Bayelsa State apital when members of two rival cult groups engaged themselves in a fratricidal battle that lasted several hours in the early hours of Thursday, THISDAY has learnt.

The incident which occurred at Onopa, an area almost opposite the Government House sent jitters down the spines of residents as the roads were deserted as people run for dear life.

•4 Killed in Bayelsa Cult War

*From Aham Ogbu in Port
Harcourt Segun James in Yenagoa*

Though, the immediate cause of the violent clash between the rival cult groups could not be ascertained

as at press time, some residents of the area told THISDAY that unusual movement of some persons in the early hours of Wednesday night. Onopa is one of the known flash-points areas of Yenagoa metropolis

with large concentration of suspected members of the Icelanders, Graceland and Degbama cult groups

THISDAY learnt that the female victim, a mother of five, was hit by stray bullet in the ensuing battle. she died on the spot before help could come.

FG Urged to Hasten PHCN Decentralisation

Nigerian Supreme Council for Islamic Affairs has urged the Federal Government to hasten decentralisation and privatisation of the Power Holding Company of Nigeria.

The Council made the call in a communique issued at the end of its meeting in Kaduna, signed by its Secretary-General, Dr Abdulateef Adegbite.

It suggested that power generation be decentralised to states and private sector stakeholders, adding

that epileptic power supply was hampering the country's industrial development.

According to him, "the Council is of the belief that the nation will not be able to achieve an industrial revolution until the epileptic nature of power generation and distribution receive the attention it deserve."

He expressed concern over increasing rate of pipeline vandalism across the country, and called on government to protect the

pipelines. The Council said the level of poverty in the country was too deep, luring vandals to engage in anti-social activities for monetary gains. It applauded the Federal government economic reforms, which it said had to a large extent, raised the profile of the nation among developing countries.

It also expressed concern over the upsurge in political violence and political assassinations, calling on government to provide adequate security for aspirants.

Niger Records 10 New Polio Cases

STOLEN PASSPORT