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**Nigeria: Youth Leader, Brother Killed in Factional Feud**

Omon-Julius Onabu

16 October 2009

Warri — Tragedy struck at the venue of a meeting convened to reconcile two warring youth factions in Effurun, Ovwie Local Government Area of Delta State, when the factional head of one of the parties in dispute, Mr. Destiny Ogbeni, a.k.a. Yellow-man, and his younger brother were killed.

About a dozen others reportedly sustained various degrees of injury, with some of them admitted at three hospitals in Warri and Effurun.

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THISDAY learnt that the death of the well-known local youth leader came as a surprise, because he was stabbed to death at the venue where the council chairman had summoned them for a peace talk. The deceased arrived the Effurun Town Hall on PTI Road, Effurun, on a commercial motorcycle; but no sooner had he arrived than he was mobbed by some members of the opposing group who accused him of suffering from sit-tight syndrome.

Eye-witness accounts said his brother may have been killed when security personnel moved in as the situation degenerated and cudgels, knives, missiles and guns were used in the free-for-all that ensued. The state police Commissioner, Mr. Yakubu Alkali, assured that the situation had been brought under control, while his men were on ground to forestall further breakdown of law and order.

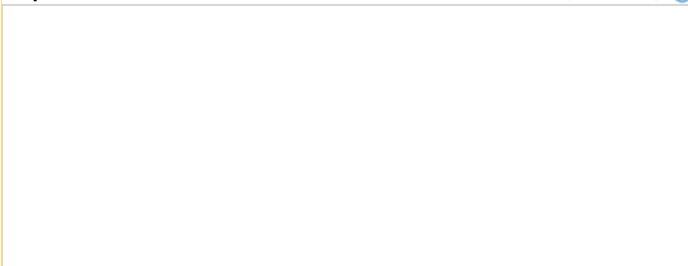
However, the Divisional Police Officer (DPO) in charge of the area, confirmed only one death. Meanwhile, efforts were in top gear by some community leaders, including the Ovie of Uvwie, HRH Emmanuel Abe I, to broker peace between the warring youths, to avert further bloodshed.

Uvwie Local Government hosts several oil and gas companies and hospitality business outlets, including the Warri Refining and Petrochemical Company (WRPC), Nigerian Gas Company (NGC), Wellington Hotel and Woodridge Hotels.

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