

Delta: DPO, Police Inspector killed in communal clash

By Emma Amaize

WARRI — THE Divisional Police Officer (DPO) for "B" Division in Ughelli North local government area of Delta state, Superintendent Nnamdi Ngwonor and an Inspector of Police attached to the station were shot dead, yesterday morning, by some armed youths.

Besides the two policemen, two villagers were also killed in an inter-communal clash that erupted between youths of Ekiugbo and Afiesere communities over the ownership of the site being used by Set-raco Construction Company, which flagged off construction work on the dualization of the East-West road during the week.

It was gathered that youths from the two communities engaged themselves in a bloody battle leading to the killing of two persons and the DPO was going to report the matter to the Area Commander when he and the Inspector were ambushed and shot dead.

Delta state police image-maker, Miss Olabisi Okuwobi, an Assistant Superintendent of Police confirmed the death of the police officers when contacted by *Vanguard*, saying that the Command has been thrown into mourning as a result of the dastard act.

She said it was ridiculous that the same DPO, which the people run to when they have problem was the person that they killed while performing his duty.

"He was going to quell the crisis, which they ignited by themselves. It was not the police that ignited the fire, it was not the police that killed those that were killed, yet they killed the DPO who was doing his best to restore normalcy to the town", she said.

Vanguard was reliably informed that the police would not spare the youths that killed the two policemen. There was an indication, yesterday, that reinforcement would be deployed to the area.

However, tension mounted in the two communities, yesterday, as some of the residents packed their bag and baggage fearing that the police might storm the area to retaliate the murder of their colleagues.

Masari asks lawma check corrupti

By Jimitota Onoyume

PORT HARCOURT—SPEAKER of the House of Representatives, Alhaji Aminu Masari has advised legislators to live up to their responsibilities by effectively playing their oversight function and thus check corruption in the society.

Alhaji Masari gave the charge in Port Harcourt yesterday as speakers of the state legislatures met to discuss democratic governance in the country. Coming at a time when the polity was on fire as a result of the feud that

has pitched Vice President Atiku Abubakar against President Olusegun Obasanjo, the House of Representatives Speaker gave pass mark to the anti corruption agencies for checking the festering of corruption in the society and protecting the rights of the citizens.

According to Alhaji Aminu Massari who urged Nigerians to strive to consolidate the gains of the present democracy, previous attempts at democracy in the First and Second Republics failed because of bitter acrimony and the inability of political leaders to reposition governance along the lines of