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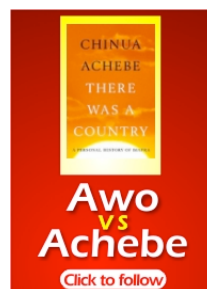
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BY FESTUS AHON, Ughelli

HELL was let loose in Agbarho, Ughelli North Local Government Area of Delta State following a violent clash between members of Agbarho Security Task Force and suspected gamblers which left five persons dead.

Sunday Vanguard gathered that one Ovuoke Ojo, 28, a native of Ekrerhavwe-Agbarho, was shot dead by members of the security task force while reportedly gambling with some friends. The source alleged that the security task force swooped on them at Uwhrughele road in the Agbarho metropolis at about 5pm on Thursday.



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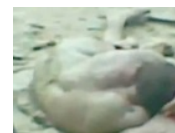
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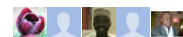


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In what appeared as a reprisal attack, the member of the security task force, simply identified as Ogiribo, who allegedly fired the shot that killed the youth, was beheaded and roasted while other members of the security group scampered for safety, a source said.

The source disclosed that the body of the killed vigilante member was taken to 5-Junction, a popular spot in the town, where it was roasted.

It was learnt that passersby were killed by stray bullets from military men who were immediately drafted to the town to assist the police in putting the situation under control.

Sunday Vanguard source said men of the joint military task force (JTF) had taken over the town, patrolling the streets. The source added that residents of the area were still in shock over the killings which he described as unfortunate.

Confirming the incident, Police Public Relations Officer, PPRO, Delta State Police Command, Mr Charles Muka, said it was a clash between members of the community's security task force and suspected cult members.

According to Muka, seven persons have been arrested by men of the JTF and handed over to the police in Agbarho. He however said the situation was under control, urging residents of the area to go about their normal businesses. He added that the police was on top of the matter.

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