

News

Man killed for refusing to join cult group

●Alleged mastermind, girl friend on the run

By Evelyn Usman

LAGOS—TRAGEDY struck weekend at Isheri area of Lagos, following alleged killing of one Adeleke Awosiga by members of a cult group in a hotel, due to his refusal to join their confraternity.

The deceased's childhood friend, Anu Olokodana, who is on the run, was alleged to have masterminded the killing.

Marks on the deceased body, according to the Police, indicate that he was strangled before his assailants threw him inside the hotel's swimming pool where his body was recovered.

Report had it that the deceased and his friend Olokodana, had been at loggerhead over the former's refusal to join the latter's cult group.

But on Saturday, the deceased was said to have left his parents abode at Mowe, Ogun State, for the hotel at Berger Isheri, following a birthday invitation from Olokodana. Unknwon to him, most of the guests at the birthday party were allegedly members of the celebrant's cult group.

Trouble reportedly started at about 4.30pm when the deceased requested to dance with the celebrant's girlfriend, identified as Rashida Musco, a request said to have been turned down in a sarcastic manner by the lady.

An argument reportedly ensued, during which one of the cult members reportedly slapped Awosiga, resulting in a fight.

Report said they were separated. But before leaving the scene, the deceased was said to have gone to the hotel's swimming pool to have a shower, only to discover that his clothes were missing when he came out of the swimming pool.

At that point, the celebrant, Olokodana and members of his group allegedly approached the deceased and demanded why he attempted to dance with his girlfriend. This time around, members of the cult group allegedly beat Awosiga to a state of coma before throwing him inside the swimming pool.

Body recovered

His body was reportedly recovered by some of his friends who thereafter, alerted management of the hotel. He was said to have been rushed to the hospital by a team of policemen on patrol, where he was confirmed dead by doctors. His body was thereafter, deposited at Yaba General Hospital morgue, with the whereabouts of Olokodana and his girlfriend, still unknown.

Two arrested

But policemen at the State Criminal Investigation Department, Yaba, where the case was transferred to, said two

persons were arrested in connection with the incident.

The suspects, according to Police sources, were arrested at the bereaved parents' home.

Police sources hinted: "They went to the deceased's home, pretending to be mourning with his parents. But their

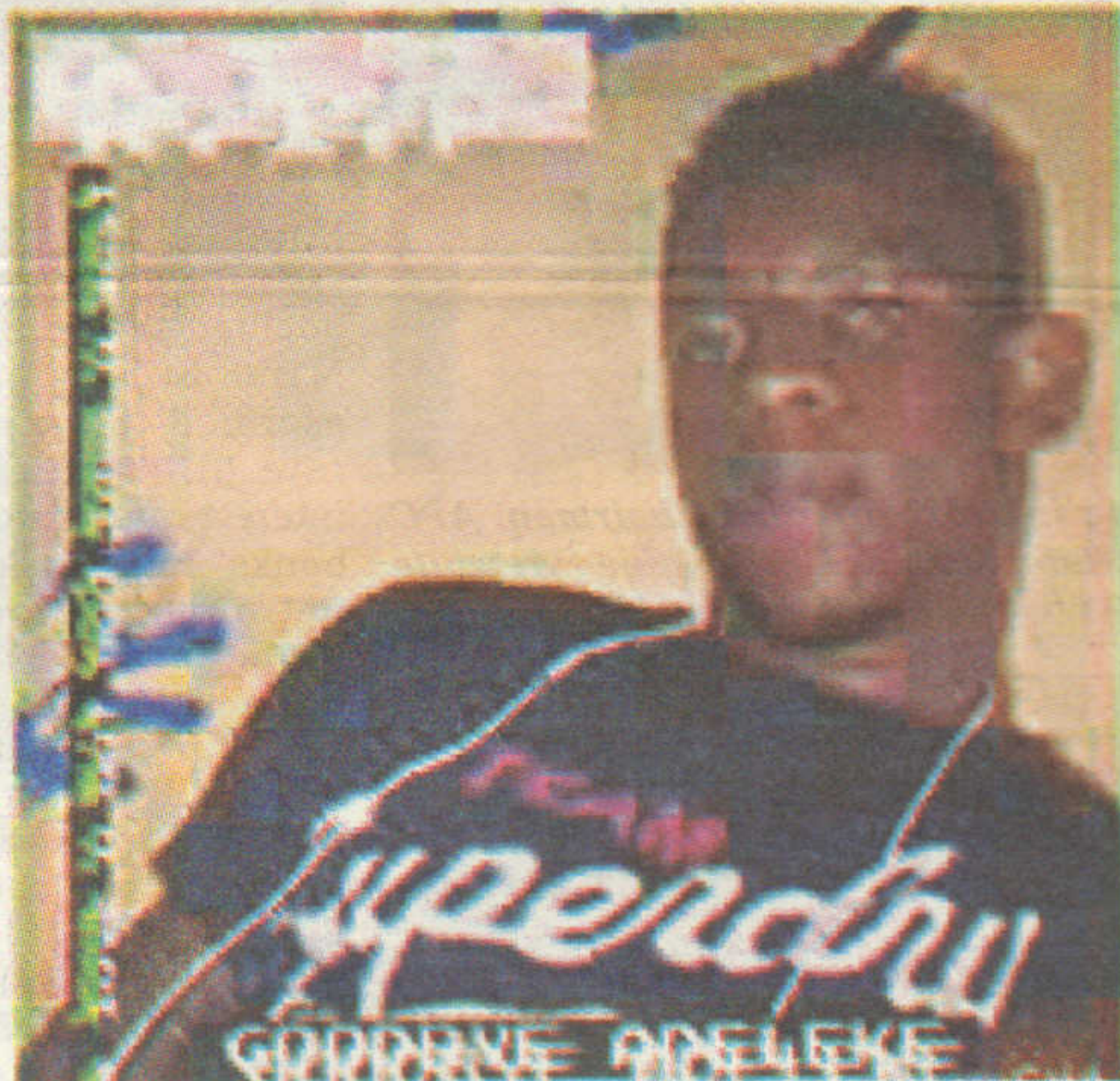
looks aroused curiosity and when the family members demanded to know who they were, it was discovered that they were members of the cult group that killed Awosiga, and were subsequently apprehended and taken to Mowe division. They told the policemen that they were

sent by Olokodana to gather information on the family's next move."

Meanwhile, the bereaved father, Evangelist Adeyemi Awosiga of the Celestial Church of Christ Mowe 3, has appealed to the Police to do all they could to bring his late son's

killers to book.

Condemning the act, he said: "It is wrong for anyone to take another person's life just like that. The family has been thrown into grief. All we want is justice. The suspect must be made to face the wrath of the law."



The late Adeleke Awosiga



Anu Olokodana alias Tfire: Suspect on the run.

Scores injured as hoodlums clash with policemen in Mushin

By Ifeanyi Okolie

LAGOS—THERE was pandemonium weekend at Odi-Olowo area of Mushin as hoodlums from Akala and Toll Gate areas clashed with policemen stationed in the area to quell clashes between miscreants at Akala and those from Ilupeju.

The policemen, who were said to have been attached to the Rapid Response Squads, RRS, were deployed to the area, following last Thursday's clash between Akala and Ilupeju boys, where several vehicles and valuables were destroyed.

Vanguard gathered that the clash started when hoodlums from Akala stormed Toll Gate to protest the arrest of some of their members by a team of policemen from task force team, which raided the hideout of suspected hoodlums in the area.

Some of the hoodlums, identified as Ita Lukmon, popularly known as Oko, Aboki, Lizarazu and Chinedu, formed a group who have been terrorizing residents of Somolu and Onipanu areas.

Some residents who were caught in the clash were said have to have sustained varying degrees of injuries as the hoodlums went on looting spree during the rampage.

The policemen had to

reinforce from Rapid Response Squad, Alakara Divisional Police Station and Ilupeju Police Station, before normalcy could be returned to the area.

A resident of the area told

Vanguard on condition of anonymity: "Some policemen came and raided a shopping complex, where the cult boys use as their hideout."

He said policemen from the task force succeeded in arresting some people who were accused of harbouring the cult members.

MILITARY INVASION: Delta community sends SOS to Okowa

By Akpokona Omafuaire

WARRI—RESIDENTS of Aruakpor-Umah in Uvwie Local Government Area of Delta State have called on the state government for help over last Wednesday's military invasion of their community, following conflict with the management of Petroleum Product Marketing Company, PPMC.

Chairman of the community,

Chief Amos Amuro, made the appeal on behalf of the community yesterday in Warri.

He disclosed that last Wednesday morning, residents of the community staged a peaceful protest demanding that management of PPMC extended its turbine electricity supply in its housing complex to the community, being one of its hosts.

He alleged that the management of PPMC

addressed them and fixed a meeting with them for 3pm on same day.

Amuro narrated that following the agreement with the management, the protesters went home but were surprised to see three trucks of military personnel from the Artillery division invading the community.

He further alleged that the military men molested residents of the community, destroying property and arresting some persons.

....As another community protests 'nefarious' activities of Fulani herdsmen

By Ochuko Akuopha

OLEH—HUNDREDS of indigenes of Ogume, Onicha-Ukwuaniand and Afor in Ndokwa West and East Local Government Areas of Delta State have embarked on a protest against the nefarious activities of Fulani herdsmen in their domains, including the killing of many people in the communities.

The protesters, comprising youths and women of the

communities, besieged Ogume Junction axis of Ughelli-Asaba Expressway, chanting songs of grievances and displaying placards which bore inscriptions such as "Fulani herdsmen are threat to our lives" "Our lives in danger," "Government come to our rescue" "We can no longer bear this situation" "President Buhari please call your brothers to order" amongst others.

A protest letter signed by Chief Francis Oduwemu and Chief Francis Nwose, alleged the killing of a former Head of Personnel Management of Isoko North Local Government Council, Mr. Benjamin Chegwe, and 10 other indigenes of Ogume between 2012 and 2013 by the herdsmen.

The letter also alleged that the herdsmen also masterminded the killings of two other indigenes of the community recently.