

Fulani herdsmen kill 3 peace emissaries in Delta

By Ochuko Akuopha

OLEH—THREE persons have been killed and two others injured in renewed hostilities between Fulani herdsmen and residents of Okuke, a satellite village at Amorji in Ndokwa West Local Government Area of Delta State.

The people of the community, it was gathered, had been at loggerheads with the herdsmen who they accused of destroying their farmlands and terrorizing them over the last three years.

An indigene of the community told newsmen that the herdsmen had threatened to chase the residents out of Okuke, a development which, he said, prompted Amorji to constitute a 15-man delegation to meet with them (the herdsmen) for a peace talk.

The community indigene, who craved anonymity, said the delegation was on the way for the peace talk when they were ambushed by herdsmen, who he alleged opened fire at them, killing three and inflicting gunshot injuries on two others.

He said one person was still missing and that those injured were receiving treatment at a hospital in Kwale, headquarters

of the Ndokwa West Local Government Area, while the bodies of the deceased had been deposited in the mortuary.

He lamented that indigenes of the community could no longer go to their farms or markets in neighbouring communities for fear of being ambushed and attacked by the armed herdsmen.

Police statement

Contacted, Police Public Relations Officer of the state police command, Celestina Kalu, confirmed the killings and said

the incident was a suspected reprisal attack.

She disclosed that a Fulani herdsman had earlier been reported killed in the community in the last one week.

Kalu said: "After some days, some of the villagers went to the police to complain that three of their indigenes were missing. A search party was raised and the bodies of three persons were found."

Kalu said the command was trying to curtail the situation, and that efforts were on to bring the feuding parties together.

109 persons arrested for crossing

By Evelyn Usman

LAGOS—NO fewer than 109 persons were, weekend, arrested by men of Rapid Response Squad, RRS, of Lagos State Police Command, and officials of Kick Against Indiscipline, KAI, for crossing the expressway at Ketu Bus Stop, along Ikorodu road, instead of using the pedestrian bridge.

The arrest, according to Mr. Olatunji Disu, RRS Commander, is to instil

discipline towards the use of pedestrian bridges in the state to prevent loss of lives on highways and ease the free-flow of traffic.

Among those arrested were 102 men and seven women.

In another development, fleeing robbers, weekend, opened fire on a team of policemen attached to RRS in Ikeja area of Lagos.

However, they were reportedly forced to abandon their operational vehicle, a Toyota Camry with number