

10 feared dead as armed men storm two Imo communities

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By Chidi Nkwopara

OWERRI — No fewer than 10 persons are reported dead, when unidentified hoodlums stormed two communities, Umuokeduru and Imeni in Ohaji/Egbema Local Government Area of Imo State.

Vanguard gathered yesterday that the armed hoodlums stormed the two communities at night when people were fast asleep.

Although no group has claimed responsibility for the dastardly act at press time, accusing fingers pointed at “some aggrieved ex-militants, who were left out in the amnesty programme of the state and Federal Governments.

A villager, who confirmed this line of thought to *Vanguard*, yesterday, said: “There is every reason to believe that the perpetrators of the gory act are aggrieved ex-militants.”

According to the villager, “two former commanders of the militants, who are now living very big, are natives of the two communities attacked by the rampaging hoodlums.

“The two ex-militant commanders now live like kings in choice hotels in Owerri, while their former colleagues live in abject poverty and want. The situation is more than enough to annoy anybody,” the villager said.

According to the villager, “the attack left traces of fear, sorrow, tears and blood.”

Another story that trailed the attack is that the ex-militants are very angry with the way they have been sidelined, after opting for peace and dropping their weapons.

When contacted on his mobile telephone line, the Police Public Relations Officer, PPRO, Mr. Andrew Enwerem, a Deputy Superintendent of Police, DSP, said he was yet to be briefed on the matter.