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Sowho killing: Gunmen kill 2, as residents urge Okowa to intervene

●Residents accuse community leaders of not speaking out

By Paul Olayemi

BARELY 24 hours after Special Adviser to Delta State Governor, Ifeanyi Okowa, on Youth Development, Okiemute Sowho, was assassinated, two persons were again shot dead in another suspected cult-related killing.

At the Shell Road end of the town, close to a private school, an unidentified man was shot Sunday night, with his body still lying at the front of a shop in the

area at press time.

Sources told *Vanguard* that he was shot at about 8 pm, Sunday, by gunmen, who came in a black Sienna bus, while at the New Road end of the town another victim, identified as Efe, was gunned down.

Efe, a butcher at Sapele main market, was said to be boarding a motorcycle heading to Ogorode area of the town when gunmen shot him, before speeding away.

There was pandemonium at the Okpe Road area of the town as

gunshots were heard with residents taking cover as another gang engaged in a shooting spree.

Contacted, Delta State Police Command spokesperson, Edefe Bright, told *Vanguard* that he has not been informed, noting: "I will get back to you once it is confirmed."

Meanwhile, residents of the town have called on Governor Ifeanyi Okowa to come to their rescue from cultists, insisting the community is under siege.

A resident, Arero Onome, a

mechanic, who lives along Owumi Road, said it was no secret that politicians were part of the problem, adding: "They, politicians, are the cause of this whole thing. Just arrest them and the next day you will hear that they are out."

Another woman, Madam Caro Anuviena, accused the community leaders of not speaking out. "They won't condemn the killing because they know the killers. So, how will they act, they have refused to speak out"

Vanguard learned that a security meeting meant to hold yesterday at the Sapele local government council secretariat was, however, cancelled for no reason.