

One dead as C-River youths attack A-Ibom community shops

By Chioma Onuegbu

UYO— ONE person was reportedly killed in a clash between residents of Oku Iboku community in Itu Local Government Area of Akwa Ibom State and armed youths of Ikot Offiong community in Odukpani Local Government Area of Cross River State over a boundary dispute.

It was gathered that the Ikot Offiong warriors invaded Oku Iboku community, overpowered the military at the beach area popularly known as Esuk Oku, entered some villages, torched some houses and shops including the clan head's House.

It was also gathered that scores at the beach area were injured while fleeing from the armed youths.

Many families, according to sources from the area, are currently taking refuge in neighbouring communities in the local government area and Uyo, the state capital for fear of the unknown.

It was gathered that the Ikot Offiong youths stormed the Oku Iboku community in two speedboats and engaged the military men positioned at the beach in a gun battle for about 25 minutes.

A source, who spoke to newsmen yesterday said the military officers fled because the Ikot Offiong youths came with sophisticated weapons, stressing, "Since the military could not stop them it means we are not safe, please pray for our community."

When contacted, the Police Public Relations Officer, Akwa Ibom State, Mr Odiko MacDon, confirmed the incident, adding that the police have not received any report of loss of life.