

Land dispute: 2 killed, others injured in fresh hostilities in Delta communities

By Ochuko Akuopha

UGHELLI—TWO persons were, yesterday, feared killed and several others injured in renewed hostilities over protracted land dispute between Igbide and Okpolo-Enwhe communities, Isoko South Local Government Area of Delta State.

The communities have been at loggerheads over the disputed piece of land in the last four decades, leading to death of several persons and destruction of property.

Vanguard gathered that sporadic gunshots rented the air in the early hours of yesterday, causing panic among residents of the neighbouring communities.

"They invaded us through the pipeline axis. We woke up to hear gunshots from their axis," an indigene of Igbide community, who sought anonymity, told *Vanguard*.

On his part, an indigene of Okpolo-Enwhe, who also craved anonymity, said: "They were the ones that attacked our people early this morning (yesterday). They came beyond the boundary and attacked our people."

Meanwhile, security has been beefed up in the warring communities as a team of soldiers and police officers has been drafted to the areas to restore normalcy.

Contacted, Police Public Relations Officer of the state command, Mr. Bright Edefe, confirmed the incident but could, however, not ascertain if there were killings.