

Cultists behead youth leader, kill 7 others over palm trees in C-River

By Emma Una

CALABAR—THE Police Anti Cultism team of the Cross River State Police Command has arrested no fewer than 30 persons, following a rampage by cultists in Akpabuyo, near Calabar.

The crisis, which started last week at Ikot Eyo village,

Akpabuyo in the outskirts of Calabar over a disagreement between the youth leader in the community and some youths, raged althrough weekend.

According to a source, Edem, the youth leader, whose name was given as Ededem and some youths in the community were squabbling over the

ownership of some palm trees and it led to a figh, during which the youth leader was beheaded.

"The youth leader was a member of a cult gang and when the gang heard about the beheading of their member, they descended on the Mafians gang and killed about seven of them," the source said.

He said the Mafians gang is dominated by Akwa Ibom youths, whose parents settled in the area some years back.

"Our parents brought those people from Akwa Ibom to work in their farms and palm plantation but they have out numbered the indigenes and everyday, they foment trouble and cause fights in Akpabuyo."

Ms Irene Ugbo, the state Police Command Public Relations Officer said arrests were made by the Anti Cultism Unit of the command.

Gambian behead