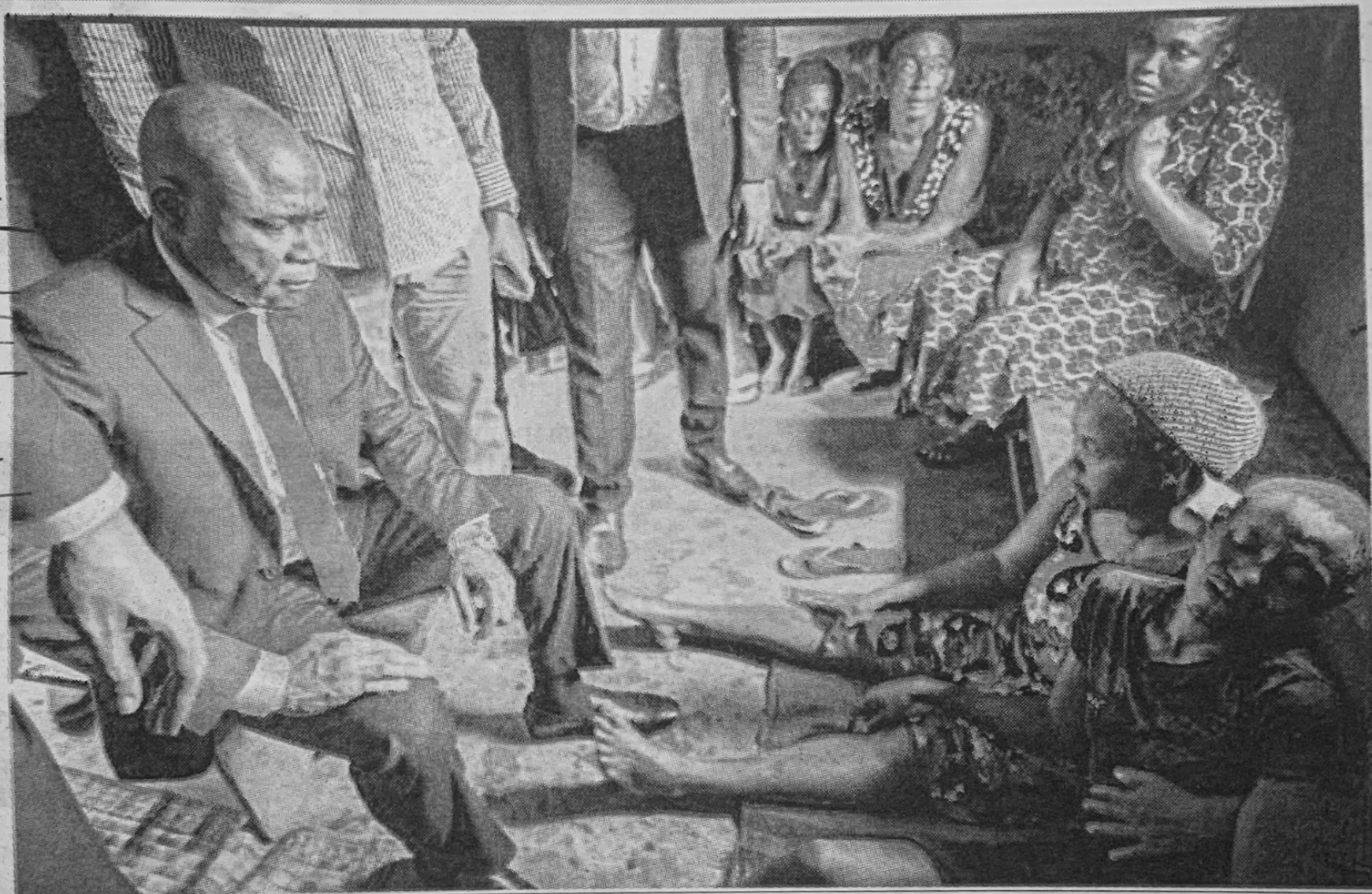


CONDOLENCE—
Governor Peter
Mbah of Enugu
State (left), with
women widowed
by the Sunday
attack by
gunmen, that led
to the death of
four persons in
Nimbo
Community, in
Uzo Uwani LGA,
during a
firsthand
assessment and
condolence visit
to the community,
yesterday.



4 killed, many injured as herdsmen attack Nimbo community

●Gov Mbah visits community, vows to bring attackers to book

By Chinedu Adonu

FEAR has gripped Nimbo community in Uzo-Uwani Local Government Area of Enugu State following the murder of four members of the community by suspected herdsmen, Sunday evening.

The attack, which occurred at Ugwujiro community, where the villagers had gathered to mourn the dead, also left many injured.

Meanwhile, Governor Peter Mbah of the state, has described the recent attack that led to the death of four natives in Nimbo as unacceptable to his administration, vowing that enough was enough, as government would track down and bring the attackers to book.

Some of those killed were identified as Okeh Oruku, Okeh Chukwuebuka, Julius Odiogwu and Gabriel Ezza.

The incident has left the community deserted as the residents abandoned their homes for fear of more attacks.

A viral video sighted yesterday morning showed a deserted community with some lifeless bodies in the pool of blood and some chairs and tables could be seen scattered in the compound where the mourners had gathered.

A voice in the trending video described how the invaders entered the community, when they were mourning one of their dead and took the villagers by surprise and shot sporadically at them.

Recall that in 2016, Fulani herdsmen invaded Nimbo community, killed many and burnt houses.

A member of the community, who pleaded anonymity said a driver of an ENTRACO commercial bus from Nimbo community was also shot dead at Opanda, in the council three days ago.

The source said there were many herdsmen camps around Ugbooda, Adani and Opanda in the council because of the thick forests at the aforementioned places.

The source said: "The herdsmen are still coming into Uzo-Uwani with their trailer loads of cattle, I don't know who is giving them the morale. They have even started destroying farms with their animals. I don't know what Uzo-Uwani people have done to deserve these inhuman treatments."

Contacted, the police spokesman, Daniel Ndukwue, said he would get back to this reporter, but was yet to do so at press time.

Gov Mbah visits community, vows to bring attackers to book

Meanwhile, Governor Mbah has described the attack as a collective tragedy to the entire state, assuring that the government would work with community and security stakeholders to strengthen security not only in Nimbo, but also the entire Uzo-Uwani LGA.

This came as the Nimbo community called for the strengthening of its Forest Guards and Neighbourhood Watch, stressing that their attackers always came from

neighbouring states, taking advantage of the remoteness of their community.

An enraged Mbah spoke during a visit to Nimbo community, yesterday, accompanied by the state's Commissioner of Police, Mr. Kanayo Uzuegbu; State Director, Department of State Services, DSS, Theresa Egbunu; Garrison Commander, 82 Division, Nigerian Army, Enugu, Brigadier General Murtala Abu and Coordinator of Enugu State Forest Guards, Matthew Obodoechi.

He said: "Let me assure you that enough is enough. I don't think we would allow our hospitality to be taken for granted. We expect people, who have come to mingle with us, to also play by the rules and laws of our land."

"I don't think we really do have any reason to exist as government if we

cannot guarantee the safety of our people because the primary purpose of government is to guarantee the security and the welfare of its citizens. So, a situation where our people would go to bed with their two eyes open must end. And it must end immediately.

"I want to assure you that we are going to deploy everything within our powers and I mean everything, the law, the forces, everything that is necessary in order for us to guarantee your security."

"We are truly pained by such dastardly killing by people who trespass, come into the locality of our people, who are living quietly within their environment, and open fire on them. That is inexcusable and unacceptable, and we are going to identify, track these culprits, pursue them wherever they are, capture them, and ensure that we bring them to justice."

I served in dangerous locations for 35 yrs —Adeoye, retired Anambra CP

By Vincent Ujumadu

AWKA—RETIRED Commissioner of Police in Anambra State, Aderemi Adeoye, yesterday went down memory lane, narrating how for 35 years, he served mostly in dangerous locations in the course of his service to the nation.

He, however, expressed gratitude to the country for the exposure and opportunity he had to serve his father land.

Adeoye was pulled out of the service at the weekend and was in his office on Monday to, according to him, clear his table properly and prepares it for the person that would take over from him.

He said: "The Police used me to maximum purposes. While some retired policemen describe themselves as fairly used materials, me, I was badly used. I was in very dangerous places many times and I believe it was a mark of confidence in me by the authorities."

"For instance, I was in the Niger Delta fighting the militants for five and a half years and within three

months of my deployment to Port Harcourt, we smashed the gun-running gang there and recovered 56 military assault rifles from the militants.

"When I was the sector commander in Maiduguri to fight the Boko Haram, we had three suicide bombing attempts and we foiled all of them."

"After two and a half years in the North East, I was brought to the South East as the Deputy Commissioner Operations for fighting IPOB insurgency as the coordinator for the five South East states. In fact, when Gullak was killed in Imo State, I mobilized men who got the killers and the two who escaped were later nabbed."

"It was the killing of Dr. Chike Akunyili, the husband of the late Professor Dora Akunyili, that brought me back to Anambra as Deputy Commissioner of Police in charge of Operations."

"The 2021 governorship election in Anambra which IPOB vowed that it would never hold, was successfully conducted and after that, I was promoted Commissioner of Police and moved to Force Headquarters."

"In July last year, I was brought back to Anambra as the state Police Commissioner. When the insurgents started attacking police stations in the state, I didn't confront them there, but decided to destroy their camps, thus making it difficult for them to mobilize and plan further attacks. Since then, Anambra has remained peaceful."

Adeoye said that unlike many of his retired colleagues who chose to continue security business as consultants, he is through with anything concerning security.

"I have prepared myself for the future and might consider playing some political roles, but will not do business of providing security again."

"I was fortunate to be exposed to stock market early in life as an undergraduate. Since then, my interest in acquiring shares has never waned."

"In Ethiopia where I served for five years and was earning very good salary, I saved almost all my earnings and when I came back to Nigeria, I invested over N100 million in shares and those shares are doing well," Adeoye said.