

## Herdsmen kill 2 in Delta

●As youths set ablaze camp settlements in reprisal

By Ochuko Akuopha

**A**SABA—HOODLUMS, suspected to be herdsmen have killed two persons in Mbiri community, Ika North East Local Government Area, Delta State, throwing the community into confusion.

The incident, it was learned, occurred on the farm road in Idumu-Ikeze Quarters and Mbiri farm settlement road on Tuesday.

Meanwhile, angry youths invaded Hausa community settlement around neighbouring Umunede community, Tuesday night, in what locals said was a reprisal, setting the camps and some motorcycles ablaze.

Police Public Relations Officer of the state Command, Mr. Bright Edafe, confirmed the incident, yesterday, saying the killings were carried out by unknown hoodlums.

"Unknown hoodlums attacked that community and about two people died. The community now suspected that it was the Hausas that attacked them. They mobilised to the Hausa area and started setting ablaze, but we have been able to restore calm," Edafe said.

A source, however, disclosed that he had information that the deceased were killed by suspected herdsmen, saying, "Two people were killed yesterday (Tuesday) at Mbiri.

"One of them was going to check his cassava plantation when he met the suspected herdsmen who have been terrorising the area for a long time. Along Mbiri farm settlement road, these men killed somebody who was working as a labourer in the farm settlement.

"After they killed the two men, youths mobilised to a place where the Hausa people are occupying on Umunede Road.

"They came and started destroying property, burning about four motorcycles and they extended their grievances to where they are having Hausa quarter and destroyed properties.

"It took the intervention of the police, army and vigilante that came together to bring the situation under control."