

Lightning strikes Alebtong again, 13 injured

The Daily Monitor

<http://www.monitor.co.ug/News/National/688334-1190560-akuhjwz/index.html>

By Hudson Apunyo Posted

Tuesday, June 28 2011 at 13:17

Barely two days after killing three mourners in Akura Sub County, Alebtong district, lightning on Monday evening struck again injuring 13 people who were sheltering from rain at Omoro Sub County headquarters.

A report available to this paper indicates that when it started raining, people who were on their way from a market rushed to shelter at the sub county headquarters. The lightning struck a police communication antenna adjacent to the sub county offices and in the process 13 people sustained burns.

The Chairperson LCIII Omoro Sub County Robert Okullo who was at the scene confirmed the incident. He said that the Chairman of Farmers Fora Joseph Omara and three Community Based Facilitators were among those injured. He said the burns were not very serious and the victims were given first aid and later went home.

Central North Police spokesman Henry Alyanga could not be reached for comments as his phone was off.

The chairman said one Odongo Dickens, 16, a pupil of Okokolako Primary School in P6 was killed by lightning while tying a cow. The cow also died. Another incident was last Wednesday when lightning killed two oxen belonging to one Anjulina Ocom, a widow of Ayiloro village in Omoro.

On Saturday, lightning struck a group of mourners who were sitting under a tree and three died moments later. Eye witnesses said over 50 people were injured but 15 serious cases were taken to Lira Regional Referral Hospital, Alebtong Health Centre IV and Lira Medical Centre.

The rate at which lightning is killing people in the country has become a matter of concern. The number of people killed this month is more than ten in the country with some cases unreported.

One person was killed in Amolatar in a different incident on Saturday. Alfred Ibek was hit at 3pm while going to a landing site.

Two primary school children and an old lady were killed in Jinja while three people were killed in Gulu by lightning this month.

In September last year, six pupils were killed in Apac and Alebtong districts. Two were from Oburu Primary School, Omoro sub-county in Alebtong while four were pupils of Te-Iela Primary School in Apac.