

How gunmen killed speaker's aide

DENNIS UDOMA, Uyo

Unidentified gunmen last week shot death a personal assistant to the Speaker, Akwa Ibom State

Condolences with Ogun Governor over death of SSG

said the death of Olukoya "is very painful to us when we come to think of the fact that he represented your good self (Daniel) and Ogun State and on his return died in an accident".

Ebebi, therefore, prayed God to grant Olukoya's family, Governor Daniel and the state at large the fortitude to bear the loss.

The deputy governor was accompanied by the commissioner for Information, communication and Tourism, Pastor Ebiowei Sokari, his Agriculture counterpart, Chief Abel Zinayi and a member of the State House of Assembly, Hon. Analayo Youso.

Responding, Daniel thanked the government of Bayelsa State for their prompt response pointing out that after all "the accident did not happen in Bayelsa State, not during flight from Rivers to Lagos State but here in Ogun State".

He stressed that the accident could have happened anywhere lamenting however that "the irony of it all is that the accident happened in one of the safest roads in the state".

Describing the accident as an act of God, Daniel who was yet to recover from the shock as he was still visibly disturbed recalled

House of Assembly, Obong Ignatius Kevin Edet.

The victim was alleged to have been killed by suspected assailants in the early hours of 6.am while washing a vehicle

the cause of the auto crash with pains saying "burst of tyre led to the loss of control".

It would be recalled that Senator Mimi Bariha Mange had earlier (Monday) led federal government delegation to the burial of the SSG at Ijebu-Ife, his hometown.

Similarly, Governor Daniel has commiserated with the family of the late SSG orderly, Police Sergeant Clement Akinola Fadairo and the entire Police force who died in an auto crash alongside his boss.

According to a statement signed by Daniel press office, Kehinde Ijobasanya the Governor lamented that Fadairo who he described as a committed officer died in his prime.

Meanwhile, kinsmen of the late SSG in Ijebu-Ife, has pleaded with Governor Daniel not to take the office from them.

Townsmen including Otunba Jimoh Adedoyin Sotubo, Chief Fredrick Ajanah and some traders who spoke to our correspondent at Ijebu-Ife urged Daniel to pick Olukoya's successor from them.

Speaking amid mourning they said it would be a disservice for Daniel to replace their kinsman with an outsider.

at the frontage of their family compound along Oron Road in Uyo Metropolis.

Preliminary findings by the police have given no clue yet, nothing but the command's public relations officer (PPRO), Mr. Gabriel Ngban confirmed the killing to *Daily Champion* saying that the victim was killed by unidentified gunmen whose identities were still being investigated by the police.

Mr. Ngban also said that those behind the killing would be brought to book.

Daily Champion recalls that the spate of political killings in the state in recent times has instilled fear into the people even as it was speculated that the PDP chairmanship primaries slated for Wednesday this week, may record more crisis in some parts of the state.

Only last week, about 11 persons were feared dead in Ini as well as a law maker's house burnt while an electoral officer in Abak Local government area was beheaded following crisis that erupted during the councilorship primary in the area.

Also, a community leader in Okobo Local government area of the state last weekend alerted the infiltration of party politics by chalatanes and cultists lamenting that his Kinsman (names withheld) was killed recently by a suspected cult group hired into the area for the electoral exercise.

Chief Ononokpono, however called on the state government as well as security agencies in the state to check the trend to forestall a recurrence.

FG loses ₦106m to vandals

THE Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) has said that the federal government lost more than N106 million in five months to vandals' activities in Rivers.

This was contained in a statement issued in Abuja by NSCDC's Public Relations Officer, Mr Emmanuel Okeh.

The statement said the figure was for the period Sept. 2007 to Jan. 2008.

It stated that the officials of the corps

in Rivers arrested 46 tankers, two trucks, eight other vehicles and one articulated vehicle for various offences during the period under review.

Reacting to the feat, the commandant-general of the corps, Dr Ade Abolurin, commended the Rivers command for its selfless service to the country.

He charged other commands to emulate the doggedness of Rivers command in ensuring that vandalism was wiped out.