

Lady, 35, raped to death

By DENNIS NAKU, Yenagoo

It was a weekend of gloom in the sleepy town of Opolo-Epic, Yenagoo, the Bayelsa State capital, as residents woke up yesterday to deserve the lifeless body of a 35-year old lady raped to death by unknown person(s).

The identity of the lady who had serious injuries on her face could not be immediately ascertained as at press time, just as the incident has created tension in the area.

The lifeless body of the lady, laden with blood stains which lay at an uncompleted building attracted a large crowd of sympathizers, most of whom find it difficult to force back the tears trickling from their eyes.

Already speculations are rife that the deceased may be a victim of ritual killers currently causing panic among residents of Yenagoo and its environs, investigations by *Sunday Champion* revealed a hapless

victim lady may have been lured to the isolated area by her assailants.

The lifeless body of the victim was turned, with her face upwards, as sources intimated *Sunday Champion* that it was exactly the way her attackers left her naked.

Those behind the heinous crime are nowhere to be found, as the police have begun a manhunt for the assailants.

Reliable sources said a team of Police men from the state command arrived the scene with a private car yesterday morning and conveyed her corpse to the Federal Medical Centre (FMC), morgue in Yenagoo, the state capital.

Our correspondent also learnt that the lady may have struggled without success for her life and was eventually subdued by her attackers.

Blood stains, tissue paper, lady's pant, pieces of cloth, lady's purse and littered carelessly on the ground, between a palm plantation and the uncompleted building.

Efforts to reach the Police Public Relations Officer, Mr. Ibokette Iniobong (DSP) proved abortive as his mobile phone was not available.

But a close police source said the state command is already aware of the incident, saying investigations are on top gear to track down the hoodlums.

a agenda — AGF

development and disclosed that Benue has been given the mandate to make rice surplus in the country.

The chief law officer of the federation said the state would benefit from the N10 billion set aside for the boosting of agriculture in Nigeria, stressing that farmers in the state would be given special grants for the purpose of increasing