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NEWS

Gunmen kill ex-NUPENG chieftain in Port-Harcourt

From Henry Omunu

Unknown gunmen at the weekend killed a former national vice chairman of the National Union of Petroleum and Gas Employees of Nigeria (NUPENG) and president, Mr. Golden Isi in Rivers State.

Isi who until his death was a leader of the Rumuolumeni Youth Council, was in his country home in Minikpiti, Rumuolumeni when the unidentifed gunmen attacked him.

Sources within the community told Daily Trust that the heavily armed assassins shot sporadically in the air to scarce away bystanders before attacking their target.

Those who spoke on condition of anonymity said Isi's death would not be unconnected with his agitation for a better deal from oil companies operating in the Rumuolumeni community to empower youths in the area through employment.

The sources revealed that Isi has had a running battle with landlords of Saipem Nigeria Limited, an Italian oil servicing firm over their attitude of discriminating against other members of the community from benefitting from the company.

When our reporter visited Isi's residence yesterday, family members and sympat-hizers were seen in mourning mood even as an uneasy calm enveloped the compound.

Rumuolumeni community, which hosts over 50 construction and oil servicing companies is now in a tense mood following the murder of the youth leader as the youths are threatening to avenge his death.

The community has been known to be crisis prone following the presence of several companies and the resultant agitation by community members.

When contacted, the divisional police office at Kala, which is in charge of all police units in the area confirmed the murder.

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