

Gunmen kill four MTN staff, two policemen

By Zakariyya Adaramola

FOUR MTN staff carrying out a maintenance operation at a telecoms base station and two mobile police men attached to them were at the weekend killed in Aba, Abia State, by gun-

men believed to be armed robbers.

The victims, according to MTN Project Manager in Aba, Mr. Valentine, were working at the Gabby Oli, Aba Road base station of the company when they were rounded up and mur-

dered by four gunmen.

Mr Valentine, in an incident report sent to MTN headquarters a copy of which was obtained by our correspondent yesterday, said the four gunmen walked into the site and held the MTN personnel and the policemen at gunpoint, demanding for a petro-seal car key.

He said the gunmen asked for petrol-seal car key but couldn't get it because the person with the car key went to the hood to use the toilet.

The project manager said: "The four gunmen, still holding everyone at gunpoint asked for the car key inside the BTS site and immediately the petro-seal engineer told them that the

person in possession of the key went out to buy something and knowing full well that the MOPOL was inside the shelter alongside the Ericsson staff and petro-seal staff the gun men felt threatened and opened fire on everyone in the BTS site."

According to Valentine, three of the victims survived the shooting. "AC technician, an Ericsson engineer and a driver were the only survivors of the sporadic firing", he said

Meanwhile, the Association of Telecoms Companies of Nigeria (ATCON) yesterday said the gruesome murder of the six MTN personnel has once again portrayed the Federal Government as incapable

of solving the security challenges in the country.

ATCON, in a statement signed by its president, Engr. Titi Omo-Ettu, said the essence of governance is now appearing to be meaningless while living and investing in Nigeria may be becoming abomination to all peoples of the world.

He said it is necessary to invite President and Commander in Chief of the Federal Republic to intervene urgently.

While pledging to assist the Police in its investigation, the association urged the new Inspector General of police to "see this as one case which requires speedy investigation and prosecution of those found culpable".

