

Gunmen kill Kano local council boss

THE orgy of violent killings in the polity yesterday reverberated in Kano State as unidentified gunmen shot dead Alhaji Mohammed Auwal Jibrin who is the sole administrator of Minjibir council.

It was learnt that the deceased was killed by 10 gunmen who invaded his residence at about 1 a.m. in a village near Minjibir town.

The deceased was

From Adamu Abu, Kano

among 44 sole administrators appointed by Governor Ibrahim Shekarau on the eve of the just-concluded April governorship polls.

Indeed, the deceased was to have vied for the position of the substantive chairman of the council in the Kano State local council election scheduled to hold before the end of this year.

When *The Guardian* visited Minjibir council secretariat, dozens of workers were sighted discussing the way and manner the deceased was killed in hushed tones.

A member of Jibrin's household, who offered to talk on the issue on condition of anonymity said: "The gunmen were 10 in number when they entered the house. We heard them shooting from a distance until they got close to the

house. Then all of a sudden, the sole administrator left his room to encounter them as they were entering the house.

"That was how he was shot and he died instantly. The gunmen entered the house, and took some amount of monies before disappearing into thin air."

Spokesperson of the Kano State Police Command, Alhaji Baba Mohammed, confirmed the incidence, adding that

the police have already recovered a locally made gun from the scene of the incident.

Mohammed, who is a deputy superintendent of police (DSP) revealed that on the orders of the Deputy Commissioner of Police, Mr. Hilary Okpara, large scale investigation aimed at unearthing those who masterminded the killing of the council chief had already commenced.

sionalised government to be used in perpetuating all sorts of inhumanities against AC members."

Apart from the lawmakers-elect, Famodun said that AC senator, Bayo Salami had also been clamped into detention on the same charges of arson, attempted murder and breach of public peace that the assembly men had earlier been charged with.

The AC secretary accused the Magistrate, Jide Falola before whom the foursome are standing trial, of bias.

Kidnapped Nigerian oil worker drowns in escape bid

A NIGERIAN oil worker, who escaped after armed youths invaded a flow station in Bayelsa State, is dead.

The victim, who worked with the Nigerian Agip Oil Company (NAOC), reportedly drowned while attempting to find his way out of the danger zone. The incident occurred at Ogbainbiri yesterday morning.

Sources at Ogbainbiri

told *The Guardian* that the body of the Agip employee, who hailed from Ogba/Egbema/Ndoni Local Council of Rivers State, was discovered by fishermen in the early hours of yesterday.

Armed youths had in the early hours of Monday overrun an Agip flow station and took 27 people, including 11 soldiers hostage.

A source in Agip office in

From Kelvin Ebiri, Port Harcourt

Port Harcourt, who pleaded anonymity, said that the management was notified of the tragic demise of the worker in the company's production unit.

According to him, the deceased was among the few Agip workers that escaped from the flow station shortly after the armed youths from

Ogbainbiri stormed the facility. *The Guardian* learnt that the militants had threatened to kill the captured workers, prompting some of them, including the deceased to escape.

It is believed that the victim died from exhaustion, following his inability to swim to safety inside the swamp.

The search for the oil worker began on Monday when his colleagues who survived the tortuous jour-

ney through the creeks to Port Harcourt realised that he did not make the energy-sapping trip.

Some officials of Agip in Port Harcourt, said the deceased colleagues had assumed that he might have probably decided to remain in the creeks till a more auspicious time to continue the escape bid.

Unfortunately, their expectation to reunite with the victim was dashed following the discovery of his

floating body on the Ogbainbiri River.

The body, which has been recovered, was deposited in an undisclosed morgue in Yenagoa, the Bayelsa State capital.

The armed youths reportedly invaded the flow station to protest the killing of nine of their compatriots by soldiers who probably had mistaken them for militants.

At the time of the attack, there were 24 local workers and 51 soldiers within the premises. 40 soldiers and eight workers reportedly managed to leave the flow station.

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