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Gunmen kill DPO in Asaba

WEDNESDAY, 30 JUNE 2010 00:00 **FROM HENDRIX OLIOMOGBE,**
ASABA NEWS - NATIONAL



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THE Divisional Police Officer (DPO) in charge of Ibusa, Oshimili North Council Division, Delta State, Mercy Dagogo, was shot dead on Monday by unidentified gunmen.

Dagogo was transferred to the area barely four months ago to quell the mysterious killing of women on their farms.

The late DPO, an indigene of Rivers State, had gone with her daughter to the popular Ogbogonogo Market in Asaba to buy foodstuffs when a gang of assailants struck and shot her at close range at about 6.30p.m.

A witness said she had parked her vehicle at the car park and sat inside patiently waiting for her daughter who had gone for the shopping when the assailants struck. She reportedly died on the spot.

Though the police are yet to unravel the motive for the killings, it was unclear whether the late Mercy as she was fondly called was trailed by the killers from her base in Ibusa, few kilometres away from Asaba or an ambush was laid around the market.

The witness, who did not want his name in print, said that business activities at the market were disrupted as traders and bystanders took to their heels for fear of reprisal attack from the police from the nearby "A" Division or being hit by stray bullets.

In an emotion laden voice, he recounted how the distraught daughter on sighting the lifeless and blood-soaked body of her mother fell on the ground, weeping and then nearly ran into an oncoming vehicle but for the prompt intervention of sympathisers.

It was gathered that the State Commissioner of Police, Alhaji Yakubu Alkali, had personally taken over investigation and was putting strategies in place with a view to apprehending the assailants.

Her fellow policemen at Ibusa and the headquarters at Asaba wore long faces and were seen discussing the tragedy in hushed tones.

The corpse has since been deposited at the Federal Medical Centre (FMC) morgue for an autopsy report.

The Police Public Relations Officer, Mr. Charles Muka, confirmed the killing and added that none of the



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