

Otti Escapes Assassination Attempt

From **Gordi Udeajah**, Umuahia

ABIA state All Progressives Grand Alliance (APGA) Governorship candidate in the April election, Dr Alex Otti told journalists in Umuahia, the state capital yesterday that unknown gunmen suspected to be hired assassins invaded and attacked his Abuja guest house in Maitama at about 2a.m and ransacked it in search of him.

He said that because he had left Abuja the previous day (Thursday) to Abia to attend his Election Petition session today/Friday, he escaped his possible assassination by the gunmen but that the Police Security on duty whose name he did not make known, was shot by the gunmen and died instantly.

He said "if I spent that night in that house, only God would know what would have happened to me. I had

spent the whole previous week in that house until Thursday I left to Abia state to attend the sitting of the Election Tribunal in which I filed a petition to claim my denied victory at the poll. I believe it was a clear assassination attempt and I thank God praying that such attempt will not happen again or continue to fail".

According to him, details of the incident were still sketchy but the Police who he said

has stepped into the matter and commenced investigation, also had taken the body of the assassinated Police Officer.

Asked if similar incident had happened before, he said that there had been pockets of such threats since he filled his petition challenging the declaration of his PDP opponent in the election as the winner adding that he handed over his security in the hands of God.