

Gunmen abduct Taraba LG boss, kill orderly

From **Charles Akpeji**, Jalingo

THERE is tension in Taraba State following the abduction, yesterday, of the Caretaker Committee Chairman of Takum Local Council, Boyi Manja, by gunmen.

The incident also led to the killing of the abducted chairman's police orderly.

The gunmen, *The Guardian* learnt, struck when the chairman, his driver and police orderly were travelling along Wukari/Takum road.

Confirming the incident, the Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Abdullahi Usman, who was not handy with details of the incident at the time of this report, promised to get back to our correspondent.

The PPRO said the command learnt of the attack, adding that the command had not been fully briefed by the Divisional Police Officer (DPO) of the council.

He said: "I hope to get back to you as soon as we are fully

briefed by the DPO in charge of Takum Local Council."

Also confirming the incident, via telephone, the leader of Takum Legislative Council, Pius Gauva, said: "It is true that our caretaker chairman has been kidnapped."

He also confirmed that the gunmen gruesomely murdered the council boss' orderly.

Describing the attack as "rude shock," he beckoned security operatives to put in

place a mechanism that will facilitate the safe release of the chairman.

A family source, who also confirmed the incident, called on the state government to join forces with security agencies to rescue the council boss.

Takum, the hometown of Governor Darius Ishaku, has, for the past six months, been enmeshed in a series of attacks that resulted in deaths and destruction of property.