Eight Feared Dead In Xmas Day Attack

By Odudu Okpongete, SENIOR CORRESPONDENT, Port Harcourt

No fewer than eight persons were killed on Christmas day in Port Harcourt, Rivers State in two separate attacks, even as the police mobilised heavily to provide secu-

rity for the festive period.

Incidentally, two of the dead were policemen who were reportedly shot dead around Elelenwon Street, GRA Phase III, in a bid to secure the home of a businessman, whose home was invaded byunknown gunmen.

One of those killed by the gunmen is a security man manning the

gate of the businessman.

Eyewitnesses say gunmen stormed the house in the early hours of Christmas day, killing his gateman and his security dogs and also successfully abducting the businessman.

According to the source, the man who owns a tarpaulin company in the D-Line area of Port Harcourt, was taken to an un-

known destination.

The gunmen were said to have invaded the home about 12mid-night of Monday, and successfully climbed the barbed-wire building with the aid of a ladder, while the rest who were armed with sophisticated weapons shot sporadically to scare people away.

In a related development, five youths were killed in around Elenlewo village during a traditional Christmas event in which rival groups engaged themselves in

a brawl.