

SSS Loses Two In Auto Crash

Ebonyi State unit of State Security Services (SSS), on Tuesday, lost two of its men and one other occupant of a vehicle to a ghastly motor accident in Abakaliki.

The accident occurred at about 2.00 a.m., along Water Works road.

The unmarked Tumdra jeep conveying four men crashed on a parked lorry with plate number Katsina AA 297 JBY, belonging to the Nigerian Prisons Service.

Three of the victims were said to have died on the spot. The only person who survived is currently receiving treatment at the Ebonyi State University Teaching Hospital, Abakaliki.

It took the assistance of residents of the area to break the vehicle with axes to recover the corpses.

Remains of the deceased have been deposited at the Federal Medical Center, Abakaliki.

When our reporter visited the mortuary, the bodies were being embalmed.

The Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO) of the state police command, Fredrick Nuhudam, confirmed the incident, but said they were yet to get the details.

Command; and the Onitsha, Nnewi and Awka Area Commanders are not friendly enough to man the various security formations in the state and the Zone 9 command", CLO wrote.

MP Sets Up Committee For Ika's Development

By Harris-Okon Emmanuel
SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT, Boji-Boji Owa

A member of the National Assembly, representing Ika Federal constituency, Doris Ubob, on Tuesday inaugurated a 34-man think-tank with a six-point agenda for the development of the area.

The committee headed by a Special Adviser, Williams Omorogie, has two representatives each from the Hausa, Yoruba and Igbo communities in the constituency.

The constituency is made up of Ika South and Ika North East councils of Delta State.

"A wind of history would blow as we continue to fulfill the vision that we have for Ika Federal constituency", she said, adding that the six-point agenda for the development of Ikaland would be pursued with visionary zeal.

names read out by the Speaker of the Assembly, Dr. Olisa Imegwu.

Others are the political adviser to the immediate past governor, Raymos Guanah, Dafe Alpedeye (SAN), Dr. Roland Eyime, Dr. Peter Ebireri, Queen Victoria Ikenchuku,

They are to appear before the Assembly for screening next Tuesday.

Meanwhile, the Assembly has invited the Vice Chancellor of the Delta State University, Prof. John Enahwo, to appear

But at the sitting on Tuesday, the Speaker informed members that the vice chancellor had written to apologise for his action and gone ahead to publish same in three newspapers, an action he described as remorseful.

Gun-men Kidnap Pakistani Construction Worker in Rivers

By Soni Daniel
BUREAU CHIEF, Port Harcourt

Unrelenting gunmen on Tuesday morning ransacked a construction site in Bodo City in Gokana Local Government Area of Rivers State, snatching one of the expatriates, whose name was simply given as Tahrir.

The Pakistani, who works with Gitto Construction Company, was reportedly singled out and taken away by seven gun-toting men, who fled with speedboats after hijacking their victim.

A source close to the company confirmed to our correspondent that the attackers, who were clad in red dressing, shot severally into the air around 3 a.m. to scare away any threats, as they rushed into the camp

and abducted the Pakistani.

Although the cause of the recent hijack could not be immediately ascertained, the usual kidnap for ransom could not be ruled out.

Findings revealed that the kidnappers had already made contacts with the management of Gitto and demanded for an undisclosed amount as ransom but it could not be established as at press time if the demands of the hijackers had been met. Rivers State Commissioner of Police, Felix Ogbaudu, confirmed the attack in a telephone interview with our correspondent.

Ogbaudu said, however, that efforts had been made to determine who took the expatriate and where he had been taken to.

He said, "We had the information of the unfortunate kidnap of the Pakistani this morning and we imme-

diately deployed our men to see how best to handle the situation and set the man free."

No group had claimed responsibility for the attack, which is the third on the company since it won the multi-million Naira contract from the federal government for the construction of the Bodo-Bonny-Andoni road. It is the first road in the history of the state, meant to link up the mainly riverine Ijaw-speaking and upland parts of the state.

Kidnappers have been on the prowl in the state, hijacking men, women and children in their latest offensive. The attacks are coming on the heels of promises by cult and militant leaders in the state that they have put an end to abductions and destruction of lives and property in appreciation of the peace effort of the Rivers and federal governments.

and how much it was sold.

It called on the Permanent Secretary, Federal Ministry of Solid Minerals to state level of his office's involvement in the sale of the corporation and how much it got.

Delta Police Arrest Two Over Death of Mayson, Ram Dealer

By Harris-Okon Emmanuel
SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT, Asaba

Delta State Police Command has arrested two armed robbery suspects allegedly linked with the killing of two men in two separate locations on Sunday night and Monday morning in Asaba.

The arrest followed intense manhunt by the police for killers of a middle-aged mayson, simply called Lasisi, who was shot on Monday opposite the Federal Medical Center (FMC), Asaba, and one Ibrahim, a ram dealer who met his untimely death in the hands of criminals at the Cable Point area of the city.

It was learnt that two gunmen had at about 9 p.m. on Sunday shot Ibrahim at close range in his left eye on his return from the cattle market on the busy Asaba Benin expressway.