

Gunmen Kill Dutch Businessman

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In Port Harcourt

Residents woke up on Sunday to find the lifeless body of a Dutch businessman in front of his home along Olu Obasanjo Road in Port Harcourt, Rivers State.

A security source told *Daily Independent* that his killers left a note explaining their action. The deceased defrauded them, they claimed.

According to the note, which has been retrieved by security agents, the late businessman collected \$50,000 to import cars from Holland for his killers but never did.

The Dutch, who was identified as Tonny Konweahoven, was the owner of a sprawling nightclub known as Blue Café in the boisterous Government Reservation Area of Port Harcourt.

He was said to have been at the club on Saturday night with some friends and later retired to his Olu Obasanjo home, where he was killed and dumped by his assailants.

Security agents suspected that the killers might have trailed Konweahoven to his house and killed him just before he could gain entry.

Rivers State Police Commissioner, Felix Ogbaudu, confirmed the incident.

The late Dutch was married to a Nigerian from Rivers State, the police boss told our correspondent on Sunday.

Ogbaudu also said the note left

by the assailants had been retrieved by the police with a view to unravelling the cause of the killing.

The police commissioner said the killing of the Dutch was a purely criminal action that had nothing to do with militants.

He said the late businessman had been living and doing business in Port Harcourt for a long time.

The police were working on some clues to establish who killed him and why, he said.

The killing of the Dutch despite the presence of soldiers on the streets of Port Harcourt raised fresh concerns about the security situation in the state capital, which has been under a curfew for three

weeks running.

The incident came barely 24 hours after some unknown gunmen abducted a staff of Afribank along Ada-George Road in Port Harcourt and demanded a N10 million ransom.

The banker, who was simply identified as Osuji, was taken away as he came out of the bank premises last Friday.

The police had also ruled out the involvement of militants in the kidnap of the bank staff, saying it could have been borne out of an internal wrangling. It was not clear at press time whether the banker had been set free by his captors.

Meanwhile, Action Congress (AC) has urged the Federal Government to act urgently to stem the worsening insecurity in the nation, warning that there could be no prosperity without security.