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Robbers Kill Bayelsa Utd Captain

By George Akpayen, Snr Correspondent, Lagos

Tragedy struck the Nigeria Premier League (NPL) champion, Bayelsa United, less than 24 hours after winning the Nigerian title for the first time in its 10-year history.

Skipper of the new champion, Abiel Tabor, was shot dead by daredevil armed robbers late Sunday, along Oghara - Warri Highway, while travelling to visit members of his family in Warri.

Tabor, who featured as a substitute in the 2-2 draw against Warri Wolves at the Oleh Township Stadium, travelled with the team from Oleh to Oghara in a convoy.

On arrival at the team's Enor Splendour Hotel camp in Oghara, Tabor was said to have embarked on the fateful journey home in company of his two brothers and a friend, in his personal Honda car at about 11.00 p.m.

One of the brothers, who was still in shock, narrated to our correspondent that it was while approaching one of the numerous check points on the highway that it became apparent to them that armed robbers were operating.

According to him, it was in a bid to escape the men of the underworld that Tabor decided to make a u-turn.

But Tabor's move attracted the attention of the robbers, who gave a chase to his Honda car before opening fire at it, which eventually led to some of bullets hitting the Bayelsa United skipper in the head.

The incident resulted in the somersault of the car.

When the spinning stopped, the car remained upside down, and Tabor's brothers and their friend climbed safety out of it.

The survivors attempted to pull Tabor out of the wreckage of the car, but apparently miffed by the fact that the driver (Tabor) tried to evade them, the robbers flatly refused to allow Tabor to be extricated for the required first aid.

All attempts to plead with them fell on deaf hears.

"It was something that we did not expect to happen at that time though it was a little bit late I the day. My brother died because the robbers refused to allow us help him. They threatened that if we continued to beg them, they would shoot us and we had to keep quiet because we didn't want another person to be shot," Tabor's junior brother.

Overcame with emotion, the brother could not hold back his tears as he tried to recount the unfortunate incident that played out just six hours after Bayelsa United was crowned

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Editorial/ Letters



The Two-state Solution To Middle East Crisis

Once more, the Middle East peace process appears to be approaching another turning point. Both Israel and Palestine

Nigeria's champion for the first time in Oleh. He was pained that he could only watch helplessly, as life frittered out of his elder brother. He disclosed that the robbers eventually took to their heel, when some military men approached the scene of the incident, and they were able to take Tabor to a nearby hospital where he was confirmed dead.

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Israel and Palestine have a choice between accepting to work sincerely towards the goal of two states living side by side, with the holy sites under international jurisdiction, or continuing their internecine conflict.

Op-Ed/ Comments

Of June 12, 1993 And April 25, 2009

This year's June 12 celebration is a unique one in the sense that it is a reawakening of Yoruba nationalism and politics. But this is not the issue here.

Between June 12 And The Ekiti Debacle (2)

Essentially, the political power they so much angle for is supposed to be held in sacred trust, on behalf of the electorate. Therefore, the people's wishes, aims, ambitions, dreams and desires are expected to be well articulated for the purpose of meeting them.

North Korea And World Peace

The sheer audacity of an impoverished North Korea to pull off its recent nuclear tests and continue with its weapons of mass destruction programme constitutes a clear and present danger to world peace. That Pyongyang is defiant to the outrage it has triggered from the 15-man United Nations Security Council shows that it has an ace up its sleeve.

Columnist

Conversation of an Angry man Super Eagles: An Advice For Coach Shuaibu

Happy days are here again! The Super Eagles have tilted their wings slightly upwards and begun a slow upward glide.

Candour's Niche Akure 27: The Shame Of A Nation

The moment he walked into my office, it was obvious that he was in pains. Obviously he needed to unburden himself and had to travel from Aba, the commercial capital of Abia State

Scruples Governors, Please Stop Disgracing Us!

In the last few days, the nation has been unduly distracted by conflicting reports on the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) reportedly signed by Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government and body calling itself the Nigerian Governors' Forum.

The Roundtable

Sam Egwu And Education Sector

Education, a critical factor in the development of any society, constitutes one of the highpoints of the Seven-Point Agenda of the Yar`Adua administration.

Speaking Out

Failure Of The State, Not Parenting

Last week I attended a symposium on youth and electoral violence, organized as part of the 10th anniversary of democracy in Nigeria by the Bayero University-based Malam Aminu Kano Centre for Democratic Research and Training

Independent Opinion Poll

Would The Recent Millitary Actions In Niger Delta Aid The Required Peace In The Region?.

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