

Female DPO Shot Dead At Asaba Market

By Felix Igbekoyi,
Correspondent, Asaba

BARELY four months after she was transferred to check the mysterious killing of women in their farms in Ibusa, Oshimili North Council Area of Delta State, Mercy Dagogo, a Chief Superintendent of Police (CSP), has been shot dead in an Asaba market.

Ritualists had turned the locality to a slaughter ground whenever they need human parts for sacrifices and other activities.

The community had protested severely, calling on the

state government and security operatives to save them from the situation, which prompted Dagogo's transfer.

The late CSP, *Daily Independent* gathered on Tuesday, had gone in company of her daughter to the popular Ogbogonogo market in Asaba to buy food-stuff when a gang of assailants struck, shooting her at close range.

An eyewitness said, the victim parked her car at the market park and sat in her car waiting for her daughter who went to purchase the commodities when the assailants struck, and

she died on the spot.

It was still a mystery whether Dagogo was trailed by her killers from her station in Ibusa, few kilometers away from Asaba, or if they laid ambush for her around the market.

Trading activities were disrupted in the market as both traders and bystanders took to their heels for fear of reprisal attack from the police at the "A" Division, which is a stone throw to the market or being hit by a stray bullet.

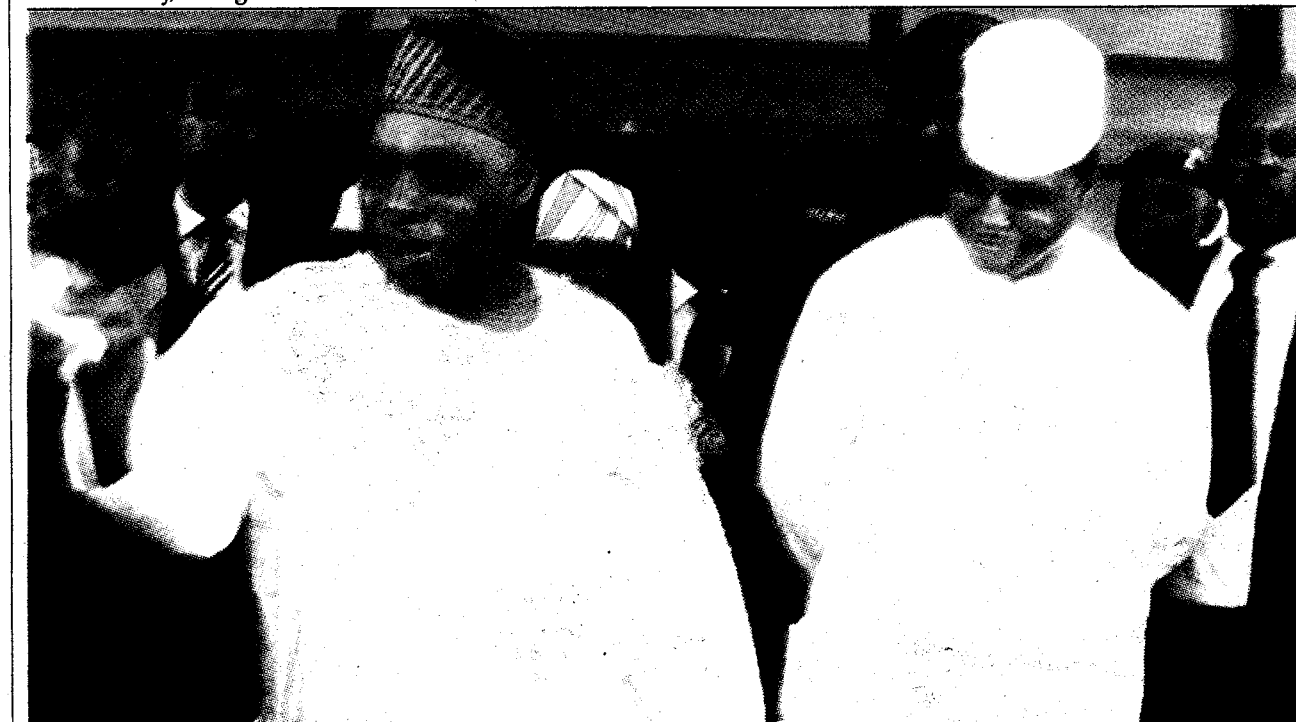
An eyewitness recounted how the DPO's daughter, on sighting the lifeless and blood-

soaked body of her mother, was rescued from attempting to jump into an upcoming vehicle.

As at the time of filing this report, men of the command were at a meeting with the state's Police Commissioner, Yakubu Alkali, on how track down the assailants.

The mood among the officers at Ibusa Police Division and headquarters, Asaba, was fierce, suggesting the readiness of the police to fish out the killers.

The corpse has since been deposited at the Federal Medical Centre (FMC) morgue for autopsy.



Former President, Olusegun Obasanjo (left), and Speaker, House of Representatives, Dimeji Bankole, at the Presidential Wing of the Murtala Muhammed Airport, Ikeja...on Tuesday.
Photo: Sunday Olaniyan

Kidnappers Kill Guber Aspirant's Mother In Akwa Ibom

By Aniefiok Macauley
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THERE IS palpable fear in Uyo, capital of Akwa Ibom State as the octogenarian mother of one of the governorship aspirants in the 2011 election has been reported killed by her kidnappers.

This is coming as the State Police Command on Tuesday foiled protest by some youths over James Akpanudoedeghe's incarceration by the police in Abuja for an unknown reasons.

Madam Udonwa, mother of Iniekong Udonwa, governorship aspirant was kidnapped in her

home about a month ago on Ikpa road, Uyo, the state capital.

Daily Independent gathered that the corpse of the octogenarian was found along the road in Mbiase village in Nsit Ibom Local Government Area of the state.

The aspirant, who was shot at the time of the kidnap, was said to have been flown to Singapore to obtain a better medical treatment.

Information available to *Daily Independent* revealed that before the eventual killing of Madam Udonwa, there has been serious negotiation between the family and the kidnappers.

It was gathered that kidnappers had demanded the head of the son as ransom to release the mother and failure to hand over the aspirant to them would result in their killing the mother.

Authoritative source told *Daily Independent* that the family, in an attempt to secure the release of the woman, had approached the police command to declare the aspirant dead, a position that was objected to by the police hierarchy since they were aware that Udonwa was flown abroad.

Although Commissioner of Police, Walter Rugbere, confirmed that the woman was found dead,

but it was not known at the time of filing this report whether any ransom was paid before the woman was killed.

Meanwhile the police authority in Uyo has foiled a peaceful protest said to have been embarked upon by some youths who are in sympathy with Senator James John Akpanudoedeghe, a governorship aspirant.

Akpanudoedeghe, it was learnt, was said to have been arrested in his home in Abuja in connection with the recent murder of Paul Inyang, a People Democratic Party (PDP) chief tain in the state.