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# Gunmen Attack Sylva's Aide In Bayelsa, Kill Bodyguard

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**TENSION** heightened in Yenagoa, Bayelsa State, on Tuesday evening as unknown gunmen invaded the private residence of Michael Wenibowei, an aide to Governor Timipre Sylva, who narrowly escaped death.

But his bodyguard was not lucky as he was killed by the suspected assailants.

The bullets hit the head of the

deceased who died instantly.

This is coming barely a week after the residence of former State Deputy Governor, Pere-mobowei Ebebi, was bombed at Aleibiri, Ekeremor Local Government by unknown gunmen.

In June last year, Wenibowei sustained bullet injuries from unknown gunmen, who attacked him in Yenagoa, which made him to undergo surgical operations.

An eyewitness account said

the incident occurred around 6.p.m along the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) Secretariat road in Yenezuegene axis of the state capital.

It threw the neighbourhood into panic as some drinking bars and shops in the area were abruptly shut down for safety.

The gunmen reportedly trailed the governor's aide, as they fired shots from a long range thereby missing him.

Wenibowei, a former chair-

man of the Ijaw Youth Council (IYC), Central Zone, is currently the Senior Special Assistant to the Governor on Conflict Resolution.

It was further gathered that the gunmen, numbering about five, laid ambush for the governor's aide close to his home and opened fire on him shortly after he walked into his premises.

The bodyguard killed by the gunmen was said to be walking behind Wenibowei when the

shots were fired at their direction.

The source said the gunmen drove off in a waiting car parked some distance away from the governor's aide's residence.

When contacted, Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO) in the state, Eguavoen Omokpai, an Assistant Superintendent of Police (ASP) said the command was aware of the incident, although he was yet to receive official brief on the incident.