

News

Gunmen attack Bayelsa Speaker's community

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• 22-year-old killed

Unknown gunmen in the early hours of Monday, launched another attack on the Okunbiri community of the Speaker of the Bayelsa State House of Assembly, Nestor Binabo, killing a 22-year-old youth and father of a two-month-old baby, Esanpou Naina.

Another youth in the community, Perekebi Douglas, was fatally injured by bullets and he is currently receiving treatment at the Amassoma General Hospital in Southern Ijaw Local Government

Area.

The gunmen used dynamites to destroy some buildings in the area.

Tension is mounting in the riverside area located in Sagbama Local Government Area of the state.

Community youths, however, resisted the attack which saved the residence of the Speaker from being destroyed.

This is coming barely 24 hours after the some gunmen invaded the country home of the state governor at Oknoama Brass Local

Government, beating persons and destroying property worth millions of naira.

No arrest has been effected by security agencies over the series of attacks.

Speaker of the state Legislature on Monday in Yenagoa said recent armed attacks at the homes of political office holders in the state were the after-effects of the impeachment of the former Deputy Governor of the state, Peremobwei Ebebi.

Binabo explained that the at-

tacks were a manifestation of the threats received from some persons for effecting a change in the polity of the state.

The Speaker said the threats received by some members of the House of Assembly during the impeachment exercise were reported to the state Commissioner of Police and other relevant agencies in the state.

His words: "We received lots of text messages on plans to terminate, damage and injure many of us. We took some precautions and reported the development to the state police commissioner

But I believe this attack and many others are a manifestation of the threats we receive on the impeachment."

Eyewitness account told *Daily Independent* that the gunmen stormed the community at about 12.30 a.m. in two speed boats and headed straight to an old building owned by the Speaker to plant some dynamites.

The Okunbiri youths may have got a tip-off that the gunmen were coming and they were battle ready as they over-powered the armed men after a gun battle that lasted for over 30 minutes