

# Fear as gunmen kill teacher in Rivers

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**TEACHERS** at the Federal Government College (FGC), Rumukoro, in Obio/Akpo local government area of Rivers State, are now living in fears over the killing of one of their colleagues by unknown gunmen.

A source close to the college told Saturday Independent that slain teacher, identified as Mr. Mong, was murdered penultimate Friday night by a group of three men suspected to be cultists who stormed the school.

The death of the teacher has

caused a great fear among the staff and students of the institution, as nobody knows who the next target would be.

When Saturday Independent visited the school on Thursday, it was scanty even as scores of students were seen in clusters discussing in hush tones about the dastardly act.

The source said the gunmen were mistaken for robbers by Mr. Mong who screamed "thief, thief, thief" and got them shoot him, adding that the suspects went on and manhandled another security man who is now receiving treatment in an undis-

closed hospital in the city.

Principal of the school, Magdalene Ogundu, who confirmed the incident, said she was on top of the situation.

"It is unfortunate. We are doing everything to ensure that it does not happen again. God is our protector," she said.

Ogundu explained that the school authorities had reported the matter to the appropriate quarters for necessary action, adding that security of staff and students in the school has been stepped up.

"I was not at the scene of the incident but we know that

the security agencies are doing what they can to track the culprits," she said.

When contacted, the Police Public Relations Officer in the state, Ben Ugwegbulam, also said that gunmen killed Mr. Mong, adding that his men were on the trail of the killers.

The police spokesman explained that a distress call was made to the nearby police station on the night of the incident and "our men went into action immediately and I can assure you that we will fish out the perpetrators of this heinous crime."