

Ibori's man assassinated

-Gunner kill guest at Rivers' Commissioner's party

WARRI, Delta State, was thrown into panic yesterday, following the assassination of an aide to former Governor James Ibori.

The body of Arido Muoboghare, a chief who was kidnapped on Sunday night, was discovered in the early hours of yesterday on Aite Arubi Street in the oil city.

He was special assistant to Ibori on community affairs, chairman of Ughelli North Local Government and a chieftain of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP).

Also yesterday in Port Harcourt, Rivers State, unknown gunmen stormed the residence of one of the new commissioners where a party was being held, killing one person and injuring three others.

The two gunmen on a motorcycle stormed Okpe Street, Diobu, Port Harcourt home of the new commissioner and opened fire on the celebrants before fleeing.

Family sources told *The Nation* that Muoboghare was on his way home on Sunday from an engagement when gunmen accosted him a few metres away from his house on Mosheshe Street, off Okubo Road, Effurun.

It was learnt that his relation were alerted by some people at the scene of the abduction. A search consequently began for him and his abductors.

The team searched for

From Shola O'Neil, Warri and Clance Azuataiam, Port Harcourt

several hours but there was no luck.

His remains were later discovered on Aite Arubi Street, in neighbouring Warri.

The Commissioner of Police, Delta State Command, Mr. Hezekiah Dimka confirmed the story in a telephone interview last night.

Dimka said the slain PDP chieftain was on his way home when he was abducted, adding that efforts were being made by the police to unmask the killers.

The murder of Muoboghare, has raised tension in volatile Ughelli. It was gathered that his death may not be unconnected with the political activities geared towards the forthcoming local council elections.

A prominent politician in the area, Chief Otitibriti, was killed shortly before the governorship election.

Before the tragedy at the commissioner's residence, Rivers State Governor Sir Celestine Omehia had urged members of his executive council to render selfless service.

Omehia, who was addressing the new Commissioners at the Government House, Port Harcourt, told them that they were selected at a critical period in the history of the state.

He said they should al-

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AGONY OF A DAD



•Mr Sunday Frank watches helplessly as his 18-month old child cries at the hospital.

PHOTO: SHOLA O'NEIL

Mum dead as three kids struggle for life

From Shola O'Neil, Warri

EVEN on her sick bed, she could remember her three ailing children. In pains, she sobbed and wondered what fate befell them - all burns victims following a killer-kerosene explosion. Mrs Stella Agbeni's children are battling for life; she lost the battle yesterday. She died, raising the toll in the Warri, Delta State kerosene blasts.

The death toll from kerosene explosions rose to over 20 yesterday as fresh cases broke out in neighbouring Effurun and Udu.

The fate of victims may further be compounded by an acute shortage of facilities.

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Nnamani flown to Lagos

Ibori's man assassinated

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ways ask for divine strength and wisdom to lift the state higher as that would be the bedrock of "what we can do for our people."

The former Chief Press Secretary (CPS) to the governor, Mr Emma Okah, will head the Information Ministry. Mr Paulinus Nsirim, a one-time CPS during the military era is to take over the office being vacated by Okah.

Nsirim, who was earlier screened for commissionerhip was dropped.

Another commissioner-nominee was completely dropped based on a security report against him.

Dr Ngozi Odu, the immediate past commissioner for Education, retained her portfolio.

Dr Roseline Konya, former Commissioner for Environment who also returned as commissioner, was assigned Commerce and Industry.

Others are: Okey Wali, Jus-

tice/Attorney General, Dandison Ukwu (Youth, Employment and Empowerment), Chief Dir Silas Eneyo, Health, Okwedi Francis (Finance), Chidi Nweke (Agriculture), Nancy Nwankwo (Women Affairs), Okwu-Worlu Chidiebere (Lands, Housing and Urban Development), and Deinma Iyalla, Water Resources.

Boniface Emerengwa, (Budget and Economic Planning), Emmanuel made the list.

Omah (Works), Charles Ihua Maduenyi (Local Government Affairs),

Igbegiri Uche (Special Duties), Bekinbo Dagogo Jack (Transport) Ikalama Theophilus Awongo, Chieftaincy and Community Affairs, Christopher Green (Sports) and Billy Braide Eldred (Energy and Natural Resources) made the list. The others are: Dammy Oruitemeka (Culture and Tourism), Fredrick Tolofari (Special Duties) and Ndubuisi Nwankwo (Environment).