

# Gunmen kill expectant mother, five others in Delta

**A**N expectant mother was among six persons gunned down by a gang of suspected armed robbers that went on the rampage in Ughelli North Local Government Area of Delta State at the weekend.

It was gathered that the gang stormed the community to avenge the killing of its members by the Ughelli Vigilance group last week.

Sources in the area said the community's crime-fighting unit had earlier gunned down two members of the gang and arrested one in a previous encounter.

The gang, it was learnt, had earlier stormed

From Shola O'Neil, Warri

Adonovwe Street, where residents were held hostage for several hours.

But members of the gang were accosted by the vigilance group on their way out, a development that led to a shoot-out where two of the hoodlums were mowed down.

Police investigation into the incident traced the gang to neighbouring Kokori town, where one of them was arrested.

Apparently angered by the heavy defeat it suffered and the arrest of one of them, the hoodlums reinforced and

invaded Ughelli at the weekend.

During the reprisal attack, they traced members of the vigilance group to a bar on Afiesere Road, where they usually unwind.

"As soon as they got there, they asked for the whereabouts of the 'Bakassi Boys' who usually frequent the bar. When the operator of the bar told them they were not there, they opened fire on him," a source told our correspondent.

Among those killed in the shooting spree by the criminals was the owner of the bar, identified simply as Chuks

and another victim, who owned a boutique nearby.

On hearing the gunshot, the vigilance boys stormed the scene in a van. There was a shoot-out in which two of the 'Bakassi Boys' were shot dead.

Not satisfied with their action, the hoodlums went to Upper Afiesere Road where they killed another victim. They proceeded to Eruemukowharien in search of one of the 'Bakassi Boys', identified as Kingsley, who they had shot in the Afiesere Road gun duel.

Kingsley's wife reportedly escaped death by the whiskers and moved to alert her colleagues that some gunmen were after members of the vigilance group.

The expectant woman, the wife of the late chairman of the community, popularly called 'Single Wire', was shot dead during the frantic search for members of the vigilance group.

Attempts to get the Area Commander of Police (Delta Central), Mr. Samuel Obiora, a lawyer, whose office incidentally is in the town, proved abortive. But a source in the Divisional Police Officer (DPO, Ughelli) office said a manhunt for the criminal had begun.

## Bayelsa lawmaker to politicians: watch your utterances

From Isaac Ombe,  
Yenagoa

political situation in the state demands the cooperation of all stakeholders.

Opusiri is seen as the arrow head of the Integrity Group in the state Assembly that pushed for the impeachment of Speaker Werinipre Seibarugu, who is now the acting Governor.

He advised that the pre-oc-

cupation of all stakeholders should be focused on how to conduct a successful re-run governorship election.

Opusiri distanced himself and the Integrity Group from an alleged plan to bomb the state Assembly, and accused the Assembly's leadership of being out to blackmail the group that has already extended its hands of fellowship to the acting Governor.

**A** MEMBER of the Bayelsa State House of Assembly, Chief Otobo Noah Opusiri, has cautioned politicians against making inflammatory comments against the backdrop of the verdict of the judgment of the Appeal Court that nullified the election of the former Governor, Chief Timipre Sylva.

Opusiri, representing Nembe Constituency III in the State Assembly in a statement issued in Yenagoa, said