

# Vigilance group members kill two in Onitsha

**T**WO middle aged men were killed yesterday in Onitsha, Anambra State by members of a vigilance group in two incidents.

The first incident, according to an eye witness account, occurred at the Old Market Road junction, off Ose Okwodu Market, Onitsha.

A member of the vigilance group reportedly shot and killed a commercial motorcyclist, popularly known as *Okada*, for refusing to part with N20 allegedly demanded by his assailant.

The second incident, the

From **Adimike George,**  
Onitsha

source said, happened at Nottidge, Francis Street, near Onitsha Main Market.

They allegedly exchanged some shots.

The commercial cyclist, said to be between 30 and 35, according to the source, was accosted by a member of a security group, who allegedly demanded to be "settled" with N20.

The refusal of the victim allegedly infuriated the operative, resulting in an exchange of words - a development, which attracted passers-by to the scene.

Miffed by the refusal of the motorcyclist to bulge, the vigilante shot him. He died on the spot.

Afraid that he might be lynched by the gathering crowd, the operative dropped his gun and took to his heels.

But the crowd seized two of his colleagues and handed them over to the Onitsha Central Police Division.

The other victim whose identity could not be ascertained as of press time was said to be heading towards the Onitsha Main Market when the incident occurred. He was said to have ridden in a commercial motorcycle.

As he and the motorcyclist rode on, a stray bullet hit him in the back and he fell off the bike.

The bullet was suspected to have been fired by another member of the security outfit.

The victim was rushed to a nearby hospital where he died hours later.

The Area Commander in charge of Onitsha Police Command, Mr. Uchenna Nwamaka, declined comments.

Police Spokesman Fidelis Agbo said he was yet to get the details but promised to contact the Onitsha Police Area Command.

## In crisis: Igbo group reiterates call