

NEWS

# Hoodlums sack police station in Rivers

## • Inspector killed, three others injured

From Bisi Olaniyi, Port Harcourt

the attack and death of the inspector.

But she denied that arms were stolen by the "miscreants."

Mrs Inoma-Abbey described the attack on a "police team and station" as unfortunate.

She said the police are on the trail of the hoodlums.

In a statement, the police spokesperson said 3 am policemen on anti-crime duty, between Sime and Eteo/Ogu Bolo Road, were attacked by hoodlums/miscreants, suspected to be 'bunkers' moving in two buses.

They killed Inspector Odee Stephen and inflicted injuries on three others.

"They (hoodlums) were seriously challenged in an ex-

change of fire, forcing them to abandon one of their buses.

"The hoodlums thereafter proceeded to Tai police station where they fired shots at the station.

"But the attack was successfully repelled by policemen and the surveillance squad at the station", she said.

Mrs Inoma-Abbey went on: "The hoodlums are

strongly suspected to be 'bunkers', whose members were recently arrested in Gio community, Tai LGA.

"The miscreants, who operated in a militant style, may have been on a revenge mission.

"No loss of arms or ammunition was recorded. Efforts are being sustained to track them."

Commissioner of Police Mr. Suleiman Abba urged the public to provide information on criminals.

## Communities warn over threat of oil spill

From Iniobong Ekponta, Uyo

YOUTHS in several communities in Ibiono Ibom Local Government Area of Akwa Ibom State have warned the government and oil companies over threats from 86 corked oil wells in their area.

The youths, under the aegis of Ibiono Ibom Youths for Democracy and Development (IBIYOED), said they have appealed to government and oil companies without results.

Speaking at its Second Quarterly General Congress, the President, Mr. Moses Essien, said the corked wells pose danger to the communities.

He said: "We have written several letters to the government and some oil multinationals, drawing their attention to the danger the corked oil wells poses to the communities to no avail.

"We have singlehandedly sponsored a group of youths to identify the corked oil wells in Ibiono Ibom with the aim of drawing the attention of government and the oil companies towards ameliorating the effects of these oil wells and subsequent development of the area", Essien said.

## Ohakim swears in contracts' panel

IMO State Governor Ikedi Ohakim yesterday sworn in an eight-man commission to look into contracts, valued at N5 million and above, awarded by the state from 1999 to 2007.

Ohakim said the commission would identify "any payment in excess of work done, including



Special Adviser to Delta State Governor Emmanuel Uborgha on Religious Affairs, Rev Godspower Agbuduta, flanked by Brig. Gen. Dominic Oneya (rtd) (left) and Deputy Governor Amos Utuama (SAN) at a one-day Inter-Religious Seminar in Asaba ... yesterday

## 'Kidnappers' kill two officers in Akwa Ibom

### • Three suspects arrested

From Iniobong Ekponta, Uyo

He said police rescued the victim.

The commissioner said a police officer was killed in an offensive against suspected kidnappers and armed robbers.

He denied that policemen were involved in Sunday's night jail break in which 25

suspects escaped from the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) cell.

Rugbere said: "I take exception to such insinuations. Do you know how dangerous these kidnappers are, so after spending sleepless hours in chasing and arresting some of them, I will then connive to let them go?"

He praised the government

for always aiding families of policemen killed on duty.

The commissioner regretted the loss of his men but said it would not dampen their morale.

He assured the people that the police would keep the state safe.

Rugbere appealed to the public to assist the command with information.

He said "we cannot do it alone without the support of the people".

## Cross River saves N360m from illegal allowances

CROSS River State government has saved

From Kunle Johnson, Calabar

secondary schools in the state. "We have 96, 219 second-

She hoped that with the repositioning of education, it would be better this year.