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It was also gathered that three other civilians, including a woman, were said to have been killed at separate times by suspected cultists in Udianga Enem, Ikot Obioma and Uruk Ata 11, all in Etim Ekpo Local Government Area.

In a related development, the militants, said to be loyal to their deceased leader, Akaniyene Jumbo, alias 'Iso Akpafid', who was killed by security operatives last month, also kidnapped one Ekikere Hanson Ukpekpe, a teacher at Saint Joseph Primary School, Iwukem.

The teacher, who hails from Ikot Obioma village, was abducted in his farm shortly after returning from his base in Ukanafun.

Nigerian Tribune learnt that his abductors are demanding for N1 million to secure his release and, according to a family source, "the ransom won't be easy for a family where the man and wife are primary school teachers.

"Because of frequent crises in the community, the man

- BENIN-CITY

THE Edo State Police Command has conducted an autopsy on the body of late David Okoniba, a cab driver who was killed by a moving truck in Edo State, which then resulted into protest by irate youths that led to burning of four **Toyota Hilux** vehicles belonging to police and Edo State Traffic Management Agency.

This was made known by the state Commissioner of Police, Mr Johnson Kokumo, who noted that it was necessary for the possible prosecution of the policemen who were alleged to have been responsible for the death of the victim, whose wedding could have taken place last weekend.

The late Okoniba, a 28-year-old cab driver, was on February 6, stopped along with his would-be wife, Ruth, in his vehicle by some policemen who demanded for his vehicle papers at the Igun axis of Third-East Circular Road in Oredo Local Government Area of the state before the incident oc-