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• Election |



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Submitted by peterakpochafo on Fri, 04/01/2011 - 00:42

News

Ahead of the National Assembly elections tomorrow, tension is brewing in Edo over the reported shooting to death of an Action Congress of Nigeria, ACN, chieftain, by unknown gunmen at Ihevbe in Owan East local government area of Edo State.

The trigger-happy gunmen were said to have trailed their victim, Mr. Andrew Osigwe in the early hours of Thursday by following his Nissan jeep with an undisclosed registration number to his residence before they opened fire on him, leaving him in the pool of his own blood.

Nigerian Pilot gathered that the bloody incident attracted a sympathetic crowd who at dawn took him to undisclosed hospital, where he was confirmed dead.

Mr. Osigwe, a Peoples Democratic Party, PDP, Councillor recently defected to ACN and has been on the wanted list of the police for alleged illegal possession of fire arms and shooting a neighbour early in the year.

Ihevbe Community, which is the home town of a serving senator, Yisa Brimoh who is seeking a return ticket to the Senate and Alhaji Ozetto, a PDP chieftain who have been holding sway in the locality. Tension has been mounting in Owan East over the conflicting interest of House of Representative member, Johnson Abulagba, PDP, who is seeking a return ticket to the National Assembly seat and the ACN, Candidate for Owan Federal Constituency, Hon. Pally Iriase.

Sources say, the Police have been forced to deploy a unit of anti-riot mobile Police to the area to douse tension, as the people are now living in fear.

Meanwhile, Edo State Police command has arrested 15 persons in connection to the killing of one person in South Ibie, Etsako West Local Government Area of the State yesterday.

The person allegedly died "during the sharing of money allegedly given to some youth groups by a PDP politician for Saturday National Assembly elections in the State.

In another development, the state police command has said that those who attempted to kill Senator Ehigie Uzamere two weeks ago while he was returning home from a campaign tour did not have any political motive.

Mr. Oga Ero, an Assistant commissioner of police, Edo state police command, who represented the state commissioner of police, David Omojola at a press briefing yesterday, told reporters that among several suspects interrogated over their role in the matter, the motive was robbery.

He said "It was a case of robbery attempt. Although we have not come to the conclusion of investigation, but all evidences we have gathered so far from the arrested suspects points to robbery attempt."

Mr. Ero also said that the state police command is adopting various measures to make Edo state uncomfortable for hoodlums, just as he called on all residents of the state to furnish the police of adequate information that could lead to a effectively and successful policing of the state, especially during the general elections.

A 22-year-old newspaper vendor, Osarunwense Ojo, who was allegedly arrested last Monday in Benin over the incident denied having anything to do with the attack on the senator, but could not explain how he came in possession of the phone number of the one of the attackers who was killed by the policeman attached to the senator.

Meanwhile the Police yesterday paraded over 10 several suspects for various crimes in the state in recent times. Among them were Margibi Odofin, 25; Soyen Agbajie, 26; Michael Obazuaye, 30; Emmanuel Chukwu, 21, who allegedly kidnapped the wife of a prominent clergyman in Benin City sometimes last year.

Other include Stephen Egbe, 27; Tony Nebuchi, 42; Osamede Ogbemudia, 38; and David Okeke who were alleged to be involved in the robbery of Bank PHB in Oshogbo, Osun state and have been "handed over to the Osun state police command because of the serious nature of the crime committed in the state."

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Registered in Nigeria, Registered office: **Abuja**

Corporate Office: A1 AMAC Plaza , Zone 3

Wuse, Abuja . Tel 09-7816987

Lagos Office:

No. 36 Ezekiel, Off Toyin, Ikeja, Lagos State

Regional Offices:

Port-Harcourt, Enugu , Benin

London Office:

Newsworld/Alpha Press

127, Jamaica Road, SE 16 4SH London , Tel:
+4402072315451