

State unimpaired for police had been briefed

## Gunmen kill businessman, tie up policeman

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**U**NKNOWN gunmen on Tuesday killed a Port Harcourt-based businessman named Mr. Solomon Chinda.

Chinda, a respected Rivers State indigene, was killed at his Elelenwo residence by four gun-wielding youths, who stormed the house around 3am on Tuesday.

His son, Charles, who witnessed the incident, told the Mini-Okoro Police Station that his father was dragged along the Radio Rivers Road and shot by one of the four men.

Chinda claimed that although his father was rushed

to the University of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital, he later gave up the ghost.

The killing came on the heels of the ransacking of a general contracting firm that same night by another set of hoodlums.

In the raid on the company whose name the police gave as Paddy, the robbers killed the security guard they met on duty before tying up the policeman who was also on duty.

The Police Public Relations Officer for Rivers Police Command, Mrs. Ireju Barasua, confirmed the incidents and stated that investigation into the matters had begun.

action, we are up to the task," she said.

Asked what measures the police were taking to foil the plans of the group, Barasua declined and said she could not disclose police strategy to combat crimes but stressed that both indigenes and non-indigenes in the state would not be harassed by militants.

She urged residents to promptly report any suspicious movements noticed in their areas to the police near them or call police distress lines.

Our correspondent who went round the town observed the presence of policemen at strategic points and the enforcement of night patrols had been intensified.