

Gunmen kill motor park leader

**Soni Daniel, Port
Harcourt**

GUNMEN, on Sunday, killed one of the leaders of the Rumuola Motor Park in Port Harcourt, simply identified as *All Nation*.

The assailants reportedly inflicted machet cuts on his body before hanging him on the Rumuola Flyover, a few metres from the motor park.

The man's killing angered his supporters, who took to the street to avenge his death.

In the ensuing confrontation with those suspected to be responsible for the murder, the irate sympathisers set fire on the houses

and property of the suspected killers.

A shootout by the two groups attracted the police, which moved in several vehicles to the area to quell the riot.

According to eyewitnesses, about 10 persons were caught in the crossfire which started when Sunday services were in progress.

Findings by our correspondent revealed that some of the gunmen escaped through the Rivers State House of Assembly Quarters after engaging the police in a gun battle near the Liberation Stadium, Port Harcourt.

The Police Public Relations Officer, Rivers State Command, Mrs. Ireju

Barasua, a deputy superintendent of police, confirmed the incident to our correspondent in a telephone interview on Monday.

Barasua said about 15 men suspected to have taken part in the attack had been arrested and handed over to the State Criminal Investigation Department.

Following the incident, there was an increase in the number of policemen and soldiers on the street of Port Harcourt on Monday, apparently to prevent the escalation of violence.

Heavy presence of security men was observed in Diobu, Port Harcourt Old Township and D-Line as at press time.