

Shell ex-top shot assassinated

Sola Adebayo, Warri

A retired top employee of Anglo-Dutch oil firm, Shell Petroleum Development Company, Mr. Steve Oni, has been assassinated by unknown gunmen in Warri, Delta State.

Oni, who recently retired from the services of the oil multinational, was into private business before his tragic end.

He was murdered at the entrance of Church of God Mission, Odibo in Warri metropolis.

The police source said Oni cruised into the church in his newly acquired Toyota Jeep marked ABUJA AY 18 BWR, before he was accosted by the gunmen.

Our sources in "B" Divi-

sion of Nigerian Police Force, Warri, said Oni was about to enter the church when one of the gunmen pronounced his name.

It was learnt that the deceased who was apparently unaware of the mission of the man quickly turned back to listen to him.

Thereafter, two of the hoodlums reportedly shot him on the chest.

The gunmen escaped from the scene as Oni died on the way to the hospital.

The development threw the church into confusion as the service came to abrupt end.

The Divisional Police Officer in charge of "B" Division, Mr. Segun Fabunmi, a superintendent of police, confirmed the report, adding that his unit had

launched manhunt for the killer gang.

Fabunmi, however, said it was early to conclude that it was a case of assassination, adding that the motive would be made known at the end of the ongoing investigation.

Meanwhile, the Commissioner of Police, State Command, Mr. Udom Ekpoudom, on Wednesday paraded suspects arrested in various parts of the state.

Ekpoudom also displayed 10 assorted rifles and ammunition recovered from the bandits who operated in Warri, Effurun, Abraka, Sapele and Oleh.

Specifically, Ekpoudom said five vehicles were recovered by policemen attached to "B" Division, headed by Fabunmi.