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Gunmen kill witness in Rivers monarch's case

By Agency Reporter

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Gunmen have shot dead Mr. Gabriel Obom, a key witness in the ongoing prosecution of the Amayanabo of Koniju, Capt. Neimi lyatta Oputibeya X, over allegations of cultism, kidnapping, bunkering and brigandage.

Our correspondent learnt that the Obom was killed in Okrika in the presence of his wife and mother-in-law.

Oputibeya was remanded in prison custody on December 21, 2007 by a Port Harcourt Chief Magistrate's Court.

The monarch was remanded alongside Chief Stephen Opungiriko and Mr. Nathan Alabo, who are also leaders of Okochiri Kingdom.

A source said that the slain man had received several threats on the telephone on the role he played in the arrest and detention of the Koniju monarch and others.

The source added that the threat became serious shortly after the Joint Task Force uncovered a large quantity of weapons in an uncompleted building in Okochiri.

Security sources confirmed that the building was owned by the leader of the Niger Delta Vigilante Movement, Mr. Ateke Tom.

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