

# Uneasy calm in Kogi, 3 persons shot dead

## INEC says it's prepared

By Umoru Henry & Isiaka Oyibo

**L**OKOJA — Ahead of today's rerun of the gubernatorial polls in Kogi State, the state has literally turned into a war zone following several skirmishes across the state. At least three persons were shot dead and military men and the police taking over strategic places.

It was gathered that in the early hours of yesterday, a youth leader, Comrade Usman Audu in Ejule, Ofu local government and two other persons in Ayangba, Dekina local government were shot dead.

This was followed by sporadic shooting in Ayangba following complaints from the youths who protested against the killings.

According to sources, Audu was shot at very close range at his Etipfegi residence and he died instantly.

*Saturday Vanguard* also gathered that two armoured tanks were moved to Ogowolawo town, the commercial nerve centre of Ofu local government area, just as three trunk loads of soldiers were also dispatched to Ayangba and Ejule

respectively.

It was further gathered that Jeremiah Abu was accused of shooting an All Nigeria Peoples Party (ANPP) member in Egume, also in Dekina Local government area of the state, even as Kerumu Alias Osama was accused of throwing dynamites at Egule.

Meanwhile, the Spokesperson of the Independent Electoral Commission (INEC), Wada Edibo while addressing Journalists in Lokoja yesterday said the commission was prepared for the election, just as it said all necessary logistics have been put in place, adding that all grey areas that hitherto led to the problem have been adequately taken care of.

## Bank manager shot dead

By Albert Akpor & Evelyn Usman

**L**AGOS- THE Branch Manager of Equatorial Trust Bank (ETB) Apapa, Lagos was shot dead Thursday night by a gang of suspected assassins who rode on a motor bike popularly called *Okada*. Time was 8.30pm. Police sources said the man identified as Mr. Moses Eduche met his sudden death after he had gone to visit a naval friend at the close of work and was attacked in traffic while driving home. According to sources, the armed men numbering three who apparently were trailing late Eduche had accosted him, forced open his car and demanded that he hand over the money in his possession to them. He reportedly complied and handed over the N50, 000 in his possession to them without hesitation. However tragedy struck after the hoodlums who were not satisfied with the amount of money ordered him out of his car and started ransacking the vehicle. Dissatisfied with the loot, one of the suspected assassins pulled the trigger and fired him below the navel

and he slumped. *Saturday Vanguard* was told that the robbers who probably got wind of the approach of the police led by the Divisional Police Officer, Mr. Mohammed Ali quickly jumped on their bike and sped off.

When contacted, the state police public relations officer Mr. Frank Mba who confirmed the attack said, "from the preliminary investigation it was a clear

## Kidnapped de

By Samuel Oyadongha, Yenagosa

**T**HE kidnapped 22-year old son of the Deputy Speaker of the Bayelsa State House of Assembly, Hon Nestor Benabo has been released.

The 200 level Economics student of the Bayelsa State owned Niger Delta University (NDU), identified as Emomoemie was reportedly kidnapped in the early hours of Thursday by unknown gunmen who stormed his residence at Amassoma.

*Vanguard* learnt that, the

### LOSS OF DOCUMENTS

This is to inform the general public of the loss of Nigerian International passport with other valuable documents, issued to Mr Okiokpa Fleming Efeturi, on 8th day of November 2007, at Festac Passport office Lagos, along Apapa/Oshodi Expressway Lagos. All efforts made to trace the said documents proved abortive.

If found, please contact the nearest police station, or the undersigned.

Signed:

Mr Okiokpa Fleming Efeturi  
08078014828/018906680