

Two behead in Imo, lawmaker, ex-commissioner's house burnt

**Chidiebube Okeoma
and Gibson Achonu**

TRAGEDY struck in Imo State on Wednesday after rampaging gunmen beheaded two persons in Orsu Local Government Area of the state.

The gunmen also set ablaze the country home of the lawmaker representing the area in the state House of Assembly, Ekene Nnodimele, after beheading his gateman.

Also beheaded by the gunmen was an All Progress Congress chieftain in the area, Jonathan Ugochukwu.

The PUNCH gathered that the multiple attacks took place between 1am and 2am.

Our correspondent, who visited the area on Wednesday morning, observed that the country home of the immediate past state attorney general and commissioner for justice, Cyprian Akaolisa, was also burnt.

The PUNCH further observed that a team of policemen were inspecting what was remaining of Akaolisa's building in Awo Idemili.

Also, the house and vehicle of the councillor representing Amaebu Ebenatu ward, Clifford Mazi, were burnt by the

hoodlums after they met his absence when they got to his house.

Apart from that, the rampaging gunmen razed the house of the president-general of Amaebu Ebenatu, Oliver Ejelonu, who also escaped death by the whisker.

Our correspondent, who visited the houses where the mayhem took place, saw that household equipment were destroyed.

The wife of one of the victims,

Mrs Nkechi Ugochukwu, told our correspondent that the attackers invaded their house, carried her husband out, beheaded him and set the house ablaze.

The distraught woman told our correspondent that the hoodlums also fled with her husband's decapitated head.

A community source disclosed that the attackers left with the severed head of the gateman to the lawmaker.

The source said, "The hoodlums met the absence of

the lawmaker and in anger, they beheaded his gate man and left with his decapitated head.

"They also invaded the house of another APC chieftain here, Jonathan Ugochukwu, burnt his house, beheaded him and left with his head. They attacked and burnt the houses of the president-general and the councillor representing our ward."

The state Commissioner of Police, Abutu Yaro, told our correspondent that the attacks were "politically motivated".

Arrested fake doctor faces prosecution, Bayelsa prepares a

Daniels Igoni, Yenagoo

THE police in Bayelsa State have arrested one Akpoviri Jimmy for impersonating a medical doctor.

The state Commissioner of Police, Mike Okoli, paraded the 49-year-old Jimmy before newsmen after a press briefing in Yenagoo on Tuesday.

Okoli represented by the state Police Public Relations Officer, Asinim Butswat, said the fake medical doctor impersonated one Dr Charles Umeh, a serving medical doctor based in Taraba State, while concealing his real name Akpoviri Jimmy.

He said, "The suspect is

Urhobo from Ethiopie West Local Government Area of Delta State, and was first discovered in a hospital in Ughelli when he did not know the correct terminologies a qualified medical doctor should know and use.

"The suspect claimed he was working in a hospital in Bayelsa which prompted the hospital in Ughelli to probe him. He will be charged to court upon conclusion of investigations."

Speaking, the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Health, Dr Wisdom Sawyer, said the state government frowns upon quackery which he said was harmful to residents seeking medication in hospitals.

Sawyer, who said the ministry had the capacity to detect any quack as the Anti-Quackery Bill was before the state House of Assembly, stated that the clampdown on quacks and impostors would continue even as he warned such persons to quit.

In his remarks, the state Chairman, Nigerian Medical Association, Dr Ngowari Torunana said he got information on Monday from the management of the hospital in Yenagoo that they had "restrained a fake medical doctor."

Torunana, who noted that Jimmy had gone to the clinic to seek employment as a resident