

Sogbodom, serial rapist, murderer, meets Waterloo

A notorious serial rapist and murderer, whose primary targets were married women in Abaomegbe, Onicha Local Government of Ebonyi State Ebonyi is now cooling his heels in the custody of the Ebonyi State Police Command, Abakaliki, capital of the state.

Chukwuma, who had previously murdered a 60-year-old woman, Anyigor Egbe, met his Waterloo after an unsuccessful attempt to kill a little girl in the bush along Okaria farm road. The fortunate girl escaped and alerted the village head who mobilized youths in the community to apprehend him.

On account of his notoriety, women in the community had given him a nickname, Sogbodom and would often taunt him.

Long before he fell into the hands of the law, Chukwuma was alleged to have murdered Egbe, on July 16, 2014 along the Okaria farm road when she went to grind cassava at a communal grinding centre. Again, like a leopard stalking its prey, on July 22, six days after killing Egbe, he pounced on another married woman, 50-year-old Helen Ekpe, who he strangled on the same road, claiming that the victim had called him by the unpleasant nickname.

Ebonyi State Commissioner of Police Dikko Maigari told *Sunday Sun* that Chukwuma also murdered yet another woman, Sarah Godwin along the same farm road. The murderous binge

would have continued had providence not stepped in when he caught the little girl who was on an errand along the Okaria farm road. He dragged her into the bush. Somehow, providence gave the girl the agility of a gazelle and she took off in a mad dash for survival when her captor briefly looked away.

She ran to the village head to inform him that Chukwuma had tried to kill her on Okaria farm road. Immediately, youths in the community went in pursuit of the suspect, arrested and brought him before the elders at the village square.

Later he was marched to the police station where he confessed to raping and killing his victims. When he spoke with *Sunday Sun* at the Ebonyi State Police headquarters, Chukwuma said: "I killed Anyigor Egbe on her way to grind cassava because she called me by the nickname, 'Sogbodom' I also killed Helen Ekpe in the farm at Akpawudele while she was weeding grass in her farm. I raped her before she died. I had sexual intercourse with Egbe too immediately she died. It was when I wanted to kill the little girl in the bush that she escaped and raised the alarm, which prompted youths in the village to chase and arrest me."

Obviously not remorseful for his alleged deeds, Chukwuma said: "If I had killed the little girl I would not have been arrested."

The Assistant Commissioner of Police, in-charge of the State Crimi-



•Suspect

nal Investigation Department of the Ebonyi State Police Command, Mrs Justina Ogbodo said detectives were still piecing together evidence that would be used to prosecute him in court, in keeping with the assurance



•Dikko, Ebonyi State CP

given by Dikko that rape and murder case would be diligently pursued. He advised women in rural communities to remain vigilant at all times and endeavour to be accompanied when going to the farm.