

## Family accuses OSPAC of killing 2 brothers

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• Allegation false -Security outfit

From **Tony John**, Port Harcourt

The family of two siblings, Collins Ugorji, aged 33 years, and Newman Ugorji, aged 28 years, has accused OSPAC (a local vigilance group) in the Idu community, Ogba/Egbema/Andoni Local Government Area (ONELGA), Rivers State, of killing two brothers after robbing them of their money.

Elder cousin to the two siblings, Wade Ugorji, in an interview with journalists, said the security outfit tagged his cousins' kidnappers and escaped with the dead bodies. The deceased siblings hailed from Oboburu in ONELGA.

He narrated: "It was on the 1st of this month that the young men went to the Idu community to buy something.

"So, the OSPAC members at Idu stopped them, took their money, killed them and said they were kidnappers.

"They (OSPAC) also made away with their two motorcycles and their bodies. Up till now, their bodies have not been found. There was a rumour in the morning of the following day, that they killed two kidnappers at Idu; that OSPAC killed two kidnappers at Idu. Some people who came from there saw the bodies and took some pictures.

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"When the Idu indigenes saw them, they said these guys are Chinemerem's children, they are not kidnappers, we know them.

“That was when OSPAC took their bodies and went away. I don’t know where they buried them.

“Again, they (OSPAC) are still threatening to kill the eldest brother of the siblings who went to report the matter at the police station. One of them (OSPAC) called him yesterday, saying that they were going to kill him the way they killed his brothers if he continues to pursue the case.

“We are calling on citizens of Nigeria, the governor of Rivers State, the deputy governor, who is from our area; we are also calling on Eze Ogba of Ogbaland, Chairman of ONELGA, that they should bring these people to book. If it continues like this, who knows who will be the next person? They will kill again. So, the extrajudicial killing must be put to an end. We are calling everyone to come, to make sure perpetrators of these evil are brought to book.”

Meanwhile, the Public Relations Officer of OSPAC, Godknows Nkem, denied the allegations that OSPAC killed two siblings.

Nkem alleged that it was the deceased and their kidnap gang that shot at OSPAC members at Idu community, and one of the members of the security outfit was receiving treatment at an undisclosed area.

A reliable source informed that a suspected OSPAC member and four residents of the Idu community had been arrested by the Omoku Police Division. The state police command was yet to confirm the incident at the time of this report.