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## Gunmen Stir P/Harcourt with Sporadic Shots

•militants endorse NDDC boss, Alaibe

From Ahamefula Ogbu in Port Harcourt, 05.25.2007

Unknown gun men yesterday caused panic in Port Harcourt as their sporadic shooting nearly shut down all activities in the city leaving people scampering for safety while banks around Mile 1 area closed to customers.

In a related development, the Coalition for Militant Action (COMA) has endorsed the appointment of the Managing Director of Niger Delta Development Commission, Mr. Timi Alaibe and asked him to work for the people in the development of the Niger Delta for their continued support.

At about 2pm, sporadic shots from automatic weapons rented the air forcing vehicular and pedestrian traffic on the ever busy Aba road to cease temporarily before the shooting subsided and business returned back to normal though banks on Ikwerre and Aba roads remained closed.

When THISDAY called the police, the Commissioner of Police, Mr. Felix Ogbaudu refused to answer his calls

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while the State Public Relations officer, Mrs. Ireju Barasua said she had been pout of town and did not know what happened.

Eyewitnesses said the gun men, suspected to be militants were armed with machine guns and had killed two people at AP filling Station on Aba the previous day returned to the place and fired into the air before proceeding to Waterlines and dispersing everybody there withy gun shots.

They continued the firing along Aba road, forcing people to abandon their cars and run for their dear lives while the militants ruled the roads.

In an online message Alaye Teme, the spokesman of the militant group said the NDDC holds the best promise and capability of improving the life of the people and warned him against compromising the objectives of the Commission.

“On behalf of the Coalition for Militant Action in the Niger Delta, we wish to commend and endorse the appointment of Timi Alaibe as Managing Director of the Niger Delta Development Commission.

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