

Group Condemns Killing of Policeman

Assassination of Chief Suprentend of Police (CSP), Ike Duru, an Imo State indigene, by unknown persons at his Amaraku Mbano Village, Anambra State, has been widely condemned by a group known as the Committee for Democracy and Rights of the People (CDRP).

In a press statement signed by President of the group, Chief Amitolu Shittu, the group called on the Inspector General of Police (IGP), Mr Mike Okoro, to set up a probe panel to investigate the murder. Titled, "Niger Delta: A Need for Peace," Shittu said an investigating panel should be constituted, to unravel circumstances leading to the murder and prevent future occurrence.

The group also condemned the act of terrorism introduced to Niger Delta region by some hoodlums, that blown off the two flow stations belonging to Nigeria Agip Oil Company in Buruku area of Delta State by unknown persons, adding

From Amby Uneze in Owerri

that such hooliganism and barbaric acts, may set back the progress made already by the Niger Delta agitation for resource control.

Mineral Exploita Calls for Co-op

Minister of Mines and Steel Development, Chief Sarafa Isola, has called for co-operation among the federal, state governments and traditional rulers, to ensure the effective exploitation of mineral deposits.

Ishola made the call in Sokoto, during a courtesy call on the Acting Governor of Sokoto State, Alhaji Abdullahi Salame.

He said the co-operation was necessary, in recognition of the role the states and traditional rulers play in accessing mine sites by mine title holders.

"Unless a mutual relationship is promoted between the

According to Shittu, killing of innocent people in the region should not be encouraged by any individual or group, in since such ugly incidences could not bring in development and progress.

traditional rulers, who are the leaders of the communities, where these minerals are found, access to mine sites by title holders would remain a challenge.

"This is because access to lands in which these minerals are found is vested on the state governments through the Land Use act," he said and described as unfortunate, the neglect of the mining sector over the years.

"It is unfortunate that the solid mineral sector from where government got money to develop the oil sector had been neglected over the years," Isola said., adding that government was putting in place, measures to revive