

Explosion rocks ex-River's commissioner's house

JIMITOTA ONOYUME
Port Harcourt

EXPLOSION in the early hours of yesterday rocked the private residence of the former commissioner for local government affairs in Rivers State, Mr. Mella Oforibika. The commissioner of police in the state, Mr. Felix Ogbaudu, confirmed the development to *Sunday Vanguard*.

In a text message, the police commissioner said no life was

lost. According to him, some unknown gunmen threw dynamites into the compound. Ogbaudu said that nothing was destroyed. Efforts to speak with the former commissioner who served in the administration of former Governor Peter Odili failed, as he did not pick his calls.

At press time, there was no clue as to why, the assailants stormed the place. But there were fears in some quarters that the motivation would not be unconnected with politics.

Meanwhile, two persons

reportedly lost their lives in Rumoulumeni when unknown gunmen attacked the area in the early hours of yesterday. The area had been enmeshed in crisis following the alleged assassination of a youth leader in the community about two weeks ago. The death triggered off crisis, which had compelled many residents of the area to flee the neighborhood.

When *Sunday Vanguard* visited the area yesterday, many of the houses had been deserted as their occupants had fled. Leaders of the community who spoke to our reporter asked those that left to return. The state police command had been battling to bring peace to the area since the crisis started.

Institute seeks professionalism in management