

# Gunmen seize toddler, kill driver, escort

By Jimitota Onoyume

**PORT HARCOURT**—**GUNMEN** on Sunday kidnapped an eleven year old Master Chidi Nzerim after killing the driver of the vehicle he was in and a Police escort. *Vanguard* gathered that the mother of the child was also shot on the arm. But at press time was responding to treatment at a hospital in Port Harcourt.

According to Lieutenant Colonel Sagi Musa, spokesman of the Joint Task Force in the state, the mother of the toddler was going to drop the child at his boarding school, Brookston International school at Igwuruta Ali, Ikwere local government area that Sunday evening, when

the hoodlums who apparently were lurking around the corner, sighted the vehicle and immediately opened fire, killing the driver and a police escort attached to the family, before fleeing with the child.

Efforts to get the father of the child, a boss of DMS, an

oil and gas company in Onne to speak on the incident on phone was futile, as he did not pick his calls. The state Police spokesperson, Mrs. Baresua Iroju who also commented on the development said no group had claimed responsibility for the abduction,

adding that the kidnapers at press time had not established contact with the family or any other person.

This development occurred on the same day wife of Hon Asita, a federal legislator from the state was abducted on her way to church.

## FG pensioners earn N10bn in six months ....PENCOM puts pension bill at N1.8trillion

By Funmi Komolafe, Asst.  
Editor

**L**AGOS—THE Federal Government contributed N59 billion for the payment of retirees from the Federal Civil Service between July 2004 and March 2008. This is

part of the N1.8 trillion pension liability which the Federal Government would have to bear between 2007 and 2039.

Of this amount, employees who retired from the Federal Civil Service between July and December 2007 were paid about N10 billion.

the verification exercise which PENCOM has introduced had helped to wipe out the issue of ghost pensioners as retirees and would be retirees are verified physically.

He said: "We came out with a figure of N1.8 trillion which is the value of the liability which the government would