

Gunmen kill refinery worker in Eket

EKET—UNIDENTIFIED gunmen on Sunday night assassinated Mr. Edemekon Inyang-Akpan, an official of Amakpe International Refineries, a private company, in Eket, Akwa Ibom.

Inyang-Akpan, popularly called "Pelle," was killed at a beer parlour on Afa Uqua road in Eket.

The deceased it was gathered received a call on his mobile phone on the fateful day from people, who posed as his friends.

He was said to have disclosed his location to the people, who stormed the place few minutes later with sophisticated weapons.

A resident on Afa Uqua road, who witnessed the assassination, said three armed men came into the beer parlour in a Mercedes Benz car.

"Three men carrying AK-47 riffles came into the beer parlour and shouted Pelle's name and told him that he was under arrest," the eyewitness said.

A policeman at the beer parlour, who wanted to know the identities of the assassins,

was shot on the thigh.

"They later shot and killed Pelle, took his mobile phones and sped off in the waiting Mercedes car.

"We later heard that they also kidnapped a lawyer and took him to the outskirts of the town where he was released," the witness said.

Pelle is said to be a close associate of Mr. Usua Amana, the Chief Executive Officer of Amakpe International Refineries in Eket.

Until his death, Pelle was handling many sensitive projects at the refinery site.

Police sources in Eket confirmed the story but said no arrest had been made.

The Police sources said the injured policeman was receiving treatment at a private hospital in Eket.

The kidnapped lawyer, who is also said to have a business relationship with the company is helping the Police in their investigations, sources said.

When contacted, Mr. Anietie Mike, the Public Relations Officer of Amakpe Refineries, declined comments.