

# Gunmen kill soldier in Akwa Ibom

By Jimitota Onoyume

## PORT HARCOURT—

THERE was wailing yesterday around the entrance of Agip company in Port Harcourt when news filtered in the area that a soldier who had served in Agip company for about one year and six months died in Eket on Wednesday during an encounter with militants.

The soldier (names withheld) was said to be from Bayelsa State. According to some residents in the area, they got calls from soldiers that had served in the area but were now in Eket that the said soldier was killed Wednesday morning by suspected militants.

He was reportedly in company of other soldiers on escort duty in Eket when the militants opened fire.

Two other soldiers in the convoy also sustained bullet injuries.

"He was a nice fellow. He was with us in this neighbourhood for about a year and six months before he was transferred to Akwa Ibom. We just got calls from other soldiers who are our friends in Akwa Ibom that they had lost one of their dear friends who

was with them at Agip at a time."

Meanwhile, *Vanguard* gathered that suspected militants had attacked a convoy of Exx-

on Mobil in Akwa Ibom on Wednesday. And one person in the convoy reportedly lost his life according to a statement from the oil firm.

## Bayelsa faults siting of Petroleum College in Kaduna

By Samuel Oyadongha

**YENAGOA—BAYELSA** State Government has criticised the siting of the proposed College of Petroleum Technology in Kaduna describing the action of the Federal Government as unjust to the people of the oil and gas rich Niger Delta.

The state governor, Chief Timipre Sylva, has also threatened to sanction any of his aides that makes uncompimentary remarks about the personality of the Vice President, Dr. Goodluck Jonathan, over their purported face-off, saying he has no problem with the nation's number two citizen.

The state Commissioner for Information and Communication, Chief Asara A. Asara, who disclosed this while briefing newsmen in Yenagoa

shortly after the weekly executive council meeting, lamented that the Federal Government is not doing enough to justify the enormous sacrifice and contribution of the oil and gas rich but backward region to the economic growth of the country.

"What is the justification for the federal government to take the petroleum institute to Kaduna? Our waterways are silting yearly without any assistance from the federal government," he lamented.

Citing Oloibiri community in Bayelsa State to buttress his claim, Chief Asara said, "the ancient community of Oloibiri in Ogbia local government area of the state where the oil was discovered in commercial quantity has been taken over by the bush and trees with nothing to show for its contribution to the growth of the nation economy.