

IBC RATTAWU boss killed

By Chidi Nkwopara

OWERRI—THE Chair man, Radio, Television and Theatre Arts Workers Union (RATTAWU), Imo Broadcasting Corporation (IBC), Owerri, Mr. Steve Nwauzoma, has been killed in his country home, Umueleba, Obokwe, Ngor Okpala Local Government Area of Imo state.

Our Correspondent gathered that late Nwauzoma's home was attacked by a group of unidentified armed gangsters and shot several times.

Confirming the incident to journalists, the deceased's widow, Mrs. Ijeoma Nwauzoma, said she was with her husband on the fateful day when the hoodlums struck and pumped bullets

into her husband's mouth at close range.

She recalled with grief that she raised alarm and the villagers that responded to her distress call saw what happened and quickly marched to the palace of the traditional ruler, Eze Tom Eke, who not only visited the scene but promised to investigate the incident.

Some villagers who spoke to *Vanguard* on strict grounds of anonymity, insisted that the perpetrators of the dastardly crime were not far from the community.

"There was a recent live phone-in programme in IBC and somebody, who called in complained bitterly about the rising level of criminal activities in the community. The caller did this to draw the attention of the police to the

area but the hoodlums felt wrongly, that Nwauzoma was the caller", the villager lamented.

The villager said that "although the IBC staff has been silenced for life, the act has confirmed that there are criminals operating in the community".

When contacted, the Commissioner of Police, Mr. Aloy Okorie, confirmed the incident, adding that the Command was still investigating the case.

"For now, the Command has not made any arrests but we are seriously looking into the matter. I have been in touch with members of the deceased's immediate family and we will investigate every lead. Be assured of this", he said.