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VANGUARD

Nigeria: Gunmen Kill PDP Chieftain in Church

Tony Nyong

21 June 2010

Six gunmen, yesterday, stormed the Ebenezer African Church Uyo, Akwa Ibom State, and killed Mr. Paul Inyang, former Peoples' Democratic Party, PDP, South-South Zonal Secretary, during service.

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Inyang, a petroleum dealer and hotelier, was killed about noon after the hoodlums arrived the church on four motorcycles, but the possible reasons for his assassination is yet to be ascertained as at press time.

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The armed gunmen, it was gathered, arrived the church and asked one of the elders to call out the politician for them to deliver a message to him. But the elder, sensing trouble, tipped Inyang of the presence of the hoodlums and advised him to escape.

The politician, rather than heed the advise, was said to have ran to his car to fetch his gun and while trying to confront the assassins, he was shot dead by his assailants.

The police, who swiftly responded to a tip-off, accosted the gang and arrested one of the gunmen after an exchange of gun fire, which left a member of the Rapid Response team badly injured, though no life was lost in the gun duel.

The leader of the gang, a well-known person from Ibesikpo, same as the dead politician, as at the press time, was said to be on the run, while the State Police Commissioner, Mr. Walter Rugbere, has vowed to fish him out in the next couple of days.

The police boss later led his men to the home of the fleeing gang leader where it was searched in the presence of his wife and children.

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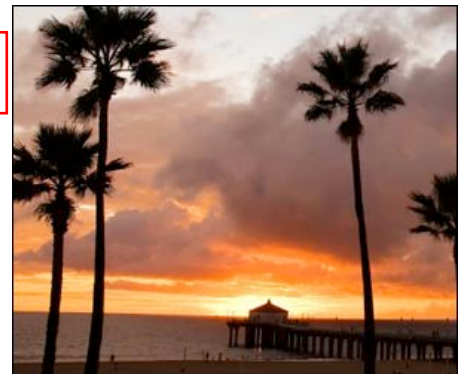
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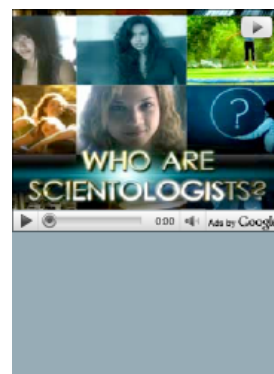
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