

# Four arrested over Rivers Commissioner of Power mother's murder

By Jimitota Onoyume

P O R T

**HARCOURT—THREE** persons have been arrested in connection with the murder, Tuesday night of mother of the Rivers State Com-

missioner of Power, Madam Lucy Wokocha at her residence in Okposi community in the state.

The state Police Public Relations Officer, Dr Rita Inoma-Abbey confirmed the development, adding that the police recovered a locally made pistol,

charms and a gown from the suspects.

In another development, former Commander of Movement for the Emancipation of Niger Delta, MEND, Soboma Rich, aka Egberipapa, has called on the Federal Government to ur-

gently intervene in recent clash in his Buguma community, which resulted in the arrest of scores of his boys.

The former militant Commander, who alleged that a top politician from his village sponsored some boys to kill him, said that the recent clash was not between his boys and those loyal to the late Soboma George as reported in the media.

According to him, it was the politician, who sponsored some boys to attack him in his Buguma residence because of his refusal to support his second term bid, and he had to flee for his life.

~~He said he had repeatedly told the politician that the seat he occupies in the local government area is rotated among the various houses in his Buguma village and it had been like that for years.~~

Rather than accept his explanation, the politician he alleged, sponsored an attack on him, also accusing security operatives stationed in his Buguma village of being used by the said politician.

## Nsadop, Boje communal clash victims get mass burial

By John Ighodaro

**CALABAR—** BODIES of the victims of the Nsadop and Boje communal clash, were given a mass burial in Nsadop, Wednesday, amidst wailing from the womenfolk of the community.

The bodies, most of them bloated, were lowered into a mass grave, dug at the centre of the town by some of the remaining youths in Nsadop.

According to one of the surviving youths, who identified himself as

Christopher, "the Boje people left the forest where the combat was and took a hidden route to our homes and began to destroy our houses. When we got wind of it and came out from the forest, they laid ambush on us and killed us like rats."

Christopher said, the Boje combatants concentrated on the menfolk during the massacre and largely left the Nsadop women untouched.

According to him, "the Boje combatants only selected men and left the

women in their massacre. Every male whether child, visitor, cripple or blind was hacked to death by the Boje people because they said they wanted to exterminate us from the face of Cross River map."

Almost all the houses in Nsadop were razed, according to Christopher.

"When they could not destroy the house of Mr Ogon Etta, the Attorney General and Commissioner for Justice, they climbed the roof, created holes and poured fuel and set it ablaze," he added.