

# Police kill 7 kidnap suspects in A/Ibom

**EKET (AKWA IBOM) —**  
**POLICEMEN from Eket Division, yesterday, killed**

seven kidnap suspects. It was gathered that thousands of residents of Eket metropolis

thronged the police station to catch a glimpse of the remains of the suspects displayed in the

premises.

Police officers had a hard time controlling the crowd.

Police sources in Eket confirmed the incident and stated that the men died in a routine operation against hoodlums. Police spokesman in Akwa Ibom, Mr. Onyeka Orji, could not be reached for comments as there was no response to several calls made to his mobile phone.

Some members of the public who reacted to the development applauded the police for smashing the kidnap syndicate which had terrorised the area for a long time.

Meanwhile, a victim escaped from kidnappers' den a few hours after his abduction in Onna, a neighbouring council.

According to the victim (names withheld), he escaped through the window of a room where he was kept when he observed a lapse in security by his abductors.

## ber: Presidency not involved,

### ● *Aspirants screened amidst tight security*

State, screened aspirants for the governorship election in Bayelsa State.

Those, who appeared at the screening exercise included Governor Timipre Sylva, Mr. Seriake Dickson, Mr. Ben Bruce and Mr. Timi Alaibe.

Alaibe arrived the venue about 5.30pm accompanied by Senator Barigha Nimi-Amange and his army of supporters.

Governor Sylva, one of the top contenders, assured that he will clinch the party's ticket. The governor, who spoke shortly after he was screened for the election, said there was no cause for alarm.

He arrived the venue at about 12.28pm to rousing welcome from his supporters, headed straight to the screening office and left at about 4pm.

Dickson, who came out of the venue of the screening at about 5.10pm, expressed confidence in the screening exercise and promised the people of Bayelsa a new beginning that will see changes for good governance and development.

He was accompanied by a close associate of President Jonathan, HRH Johnny Turner; one time chairman of PDP in Bayelsa, Chief Fred Agbedi; a former

governorship aspirant and former Transport Officer to the Government, Mr. Ebifemowei Abel.

Ben Bruce drove into the venue of the exercise in a convoy of about three vehicles at about 3pm.

Meanwhile, Dugo said: "I am not under the influence of President Jonathan or any person or group. Let me use this opportunity to advise all party members to be mindful of detractors who infiltrate our party.

"Their aim is to pill us down. By the same token, we should build a synergy and consensus, so that we can contend with other political parties in the state."