

by Gabriel Arimanya & Mr Osezuan Lumina at Lagos & Port Harcourt  
Doran Oshe.

## Irate youths kill Abia monarch, 20 suspects arrested

BY ANAYO OGBOLI

**A**BIA State Police Command says it has arrested 20 suspects in connection with the murder of the traditional ruler of Ugwuleru autonomous community in Umuunneochi Local Government Area of the state.

The traditional ruler, Eze Iroha Nwankwo, 65, was allegedly beaten to death, on Monday night, in his palace allegedly by youths in the community who were said to have invaded his palace at about 11pm.

The family has, however, through their son, Prince Samuel Iroha, accused a local leader of inciting the youths against their father.

The accused local leaders denied any involvement in the death of the traditional ruler, saying he had no reason to wish the deceased death let alone inciting the youths to kill him.

The Assistant Commissioner of Police in charge

of Criminal Investigation Department in the Abia Police Command, Mr. Joseph Micloth, who confirmed the killing in a telephone interview, disclosed that the 20 suspects had been arrested while investigation continued.

Though he did not give details of those arrested,

he vowed that the police would get to the root of the matter and culprits made to face the law.

Meanwhile, the Nwankwo family, through Iroha fingered of being behind the killing of their father.

According to Iroha, who spoke to *Sunday Vanguard* on telephone yes-

terday, the local leader addressed the youths and after addressing them, the youths invaded the palace and killed the traditional ruler.

The family spokesman said he had already made statement to the police in Umuahia to the effect that the suspect was behind the murder.

## Police rescue housewives from kidnappers in Delta

BY EMMA AMAIZE

**P**OLICE in Delta State, at the weekend, rescued two women: Mrs. Agatha Diden, wife of a former chairman of Warri North Local Government Area and Mrs. Lori Helen, wife of a mechanic, who was seized by kidnappers, at Asaba and Effurun, near Warri, some days ago.

The state police spokesman, Mr. Charles Muka, who confirmed the rescue operation, said one of the kidnappers was arrested.

He said the kidnappers abducted Mrs. Diden, whose husband, Mr. Michael Diden, is presently the commissioner representing the Itsekiri ethnic community in the Delta State Oil Producing Areas Development Commission, DESOPADEC,

on Wednesday, at Asaba.

Muka said the police, acting on a tip off, trailed the gang to Umunede, where the gangsters, on sighting the police, took to their heels, leaving behind one pump action gun and four AK 47 magazines.

## Mimiko has redefined g

**O**NDU State Governor Olusegun Mimiko has been lauded by the retired Bishop of Akure Diocese of the

Church of Nigeria, Anglican Communion, Rt. Rev. Emmanuel Bolanle Gbonigi, for redefining

## 28 arrested in C-River for alleged cultism