

Rights activist/politician assa

BY CHINENYEH OZOR

NSUKKA — A frontline politician and rights crusader in Nsukka, Enugu State has been assassinated by unknown persons.

The politician, Christopher Ejike Onah a.k.a. Papa Nsukka, was attacked at his residence in Agbani area of the town at about 9.30 p.m., Sunday night, by assailants numbering over 20.

Vanguard learnt that the assassins had accosted their victim at the gate of his residence even as his neighbours shouted for help while beating wooden security gonjs to scare away the alleged hoodlums.

Onah had gone to bed but was reportedly woken by his wife who informed him that people were shouting outside.

Dressed in boxers and a T-shirt, he went out to ascertain what was wrong only to be attacked at his gate with machetes and axes, leaving deep cuts on his head, neck and body.

His attackers fled when they felt he had died.

He was, however, rushed to a private hospital in Nsukka where he died, Monday night, after efforts by the doctors to save his life failed.

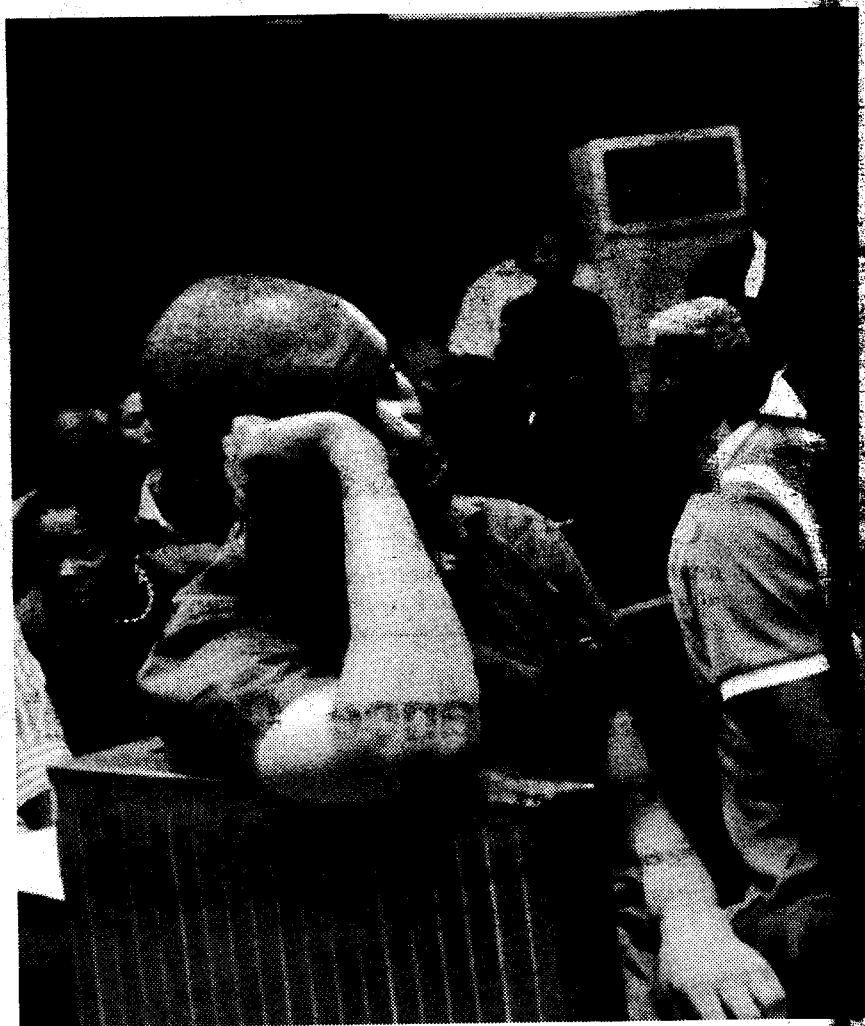
Reports also said that one Ndubisi Ugwu, a welder and native of Onah's Agbani village was also attacked

same night. The latter's two rooms apartment was reportedly demolished by the attackers in an effort to kill him but he eventually escaped unhurt.

Contacted, Enugu State Police spokesman, Ebere

Amarizu, said the incident had been reported to the police command headquarters in Enugu.

He said a case of malicious damage of property was previously reported against the deceased, adding that the



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Assassinated in Nsukka

attack on him could be a reprisal.

"Our major concern now is to conduct an autopsy but no arrest has been made," Amarizu added.

The Police Area Commander, Nsukka Police Area Command,

Assistant Commissioner Ros-Amson Halladu, also described the killing as unfortunate.

He urged the people to always dialogue on issues instead of resorting to violence, warning that the police would not tolerate use of violence to resolve disputes.