

Gunmen kill two, kidnap one in Rivers

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By Davies Iheamnachor

PORT HARCOURT—Masked gunmen killed two people, Sunday, and took another hostage in Omoku town, Ogba/Egbema/Ndoni Local Government Area of Rivers State.

A source disclosed that Mr. Jeremiah Uche, a former member of the Caretaker Committee of ONELGA on the platform of Peoples Democratic Party, PDP, was the person kidnapped during the operation.

It was reported that the gunmen stormed the home of Uche around 9a.m, where they killed two of his visitors before taking him captive.

A source in the area, who gave his name simply as Emmanuel, said one of the victims was Julius Amadi, the former youth president of Obirikom community, while the other hailed from Delta State.

Emmanuel said: “Sunday morning, we were greeted with the killing and kidnapping in Omoku town. One youth activist and one former member of the last caretaker committee of ONELGA, the Supervisory Councillor for Works and Transport, Uche Jeremiah, alias *Interpol*, was kidnapped.

“They killed two other people, one Julius Amadi, the youth president of Obirikom community that came to visit him. Another person, whose name we are yet to identify, was also killed. They said he was from Delta State.

“The family has made contact and the boys are demanding for certain amount of money. The incident is causing panic in the community because the people are afraid that if this kind of person can be kidnapped that it can happen to anybody.

“The boys came around 9a.m., Sunday, on motorcycles. They were masked. Uche just arrived from Port Harcourt that day. Even as a caretaker member, he was operating from Port Harcourt.”

Meanwhile, Rivers State Police Command's spokesman, DSP Nnamdi Omoni, said the police are aware of the incident, noting that police detectives have been deployed in the area.

"We are aware of the incidents. We are on top of the situation and have deployed our men in the area to ensure that the victim regains his freedom unconditionally and as soon as possible."