

he stole musical instruments belonging to the church.

Mr. Ikechukwu Ogbonna,

jointly pay N20 million as compensation to the family of the deceased.

pastor and all the policemen involved in the illegal operation be arraigned in court for murder of the late

policemen on a two-count charge of conspiracy to murder and murder of Vincent Uwagbaokwu.

# Protest grounds Port Harcourt as Police escort kills taxi driver



By Egufe Yafugborhi & Davies Iheamnachor

**P**ORT HARCOURT—THERE was pandemonium at Rumuokoro area of Port Harcourt, yesterday, as a taxi driver was reportedly killed by a policeman escorting a vehicle conveying frozen foods.

The incident happened around Rumuokoro Roundabout, Obio/Akpor Local Government Area.

The remains of the victim, simply identified as Mr. Bright, a native of Ngwa in Abia State, was later taken to an unknown destination by the policemen.

## Eyewitness account

A young boy—hawker—told *Vanguard* that the policeman jumped into the truck and the driver zoomed off after the policeman killed the man.

forgery, preferred against him by the Police.

The prosecutor, Sergeant Cyriacus Osuji, told the court that on October 5, 2017, the defendant forged two separate invitation letters, an identity card, and submitted the documents to the

The boy said: "I was selling water to some people when the driver finished loading his taxi. As he was trying to enter the road, somebody blocked him in front, while the trailer driver that was carrying the MOPOL was behind him, blaring its horn.

"The MOPOL later got down from the trailer, went to the taxi driver and shot him on the neck. He ran back and entered the trailer and they drove past the taxi. Because of fear, people ran away and nobody went after the vehicle; but it was carrying fish."

## Youths on rampage

Meanwhile, some Igbo youths, who identified the victim as their brother, barricaded the popular East-West Road, where the incident occurred, in protest. They demanded that the Commissioner of Police in the state, Ahmed Zaki, must fish out

United States Embassy for it to be acted upon as genuine.

However, Nnubia denied the offences in the charge.

Magistrate, Mrs A. T. Omoyele, granted him bail in the sum of N200,000 with two sureties in like sum, and adjourned till March 5.

The protesters, yesterday (above and below).



the killer-policeman.

One of the youths, who gave his name simply as Ifeanyi, said: "We are not happy that our brother, Bright, was killed while looking for daily bread.

"The policeman just came down from the vehicle, killed him without provocation and left. This shows how the people who are meant to be protecting us have turned to our killers.

"We want the Inspector General of Police to look into this matter. We are calling on the Commissioner of Police to fish out this officer and prosecute him."

## Police invade scene

Meanwhile, fully-armed policemen, invaded the scene of the incident to pick the remains of the victim.

The angry youths had laid

the remains of Mr. Bright on top of his car in the middle of the road, stressing that Governor Nyesom Wike must visit the scene to see the injustice.

However, the development took another twist when fierce-looking officers arrived, shooting sporadically.

The endless shooting caused anxiety and ground all business activities in the area.

Contacted yesterday night, Rivers State Police Command confirmed the incident, saying the policeman was just passing through the state.

The state Police Public Relations Officer, Nnamdi Omoni, said the policeman was escorting a company vehicle that has been identified and that the policeman will soon be fished out.