

Gunmen kill Delta Poly staff, kidnap Katsina Poly lecturer

By Festus Ahon
& Bashir Bello

BARELY one month after a contract staff of Delta State Polytechnic, Ogwashi-Uku, was killed by gunmen, a senior staff of the institution, Mr. Chukwudi John, was Wednesday shot dead by gunmen at a beer parlour in Ogwashi-Uku, Aniocha South Local Government Area of Delta state.

It was gathered that the deceased, popularly known as Mr. Biggi, was shot six times at close range, while leaving the bar.

The circumstance that led to his killing was still hazy at press time, but the Public Relations Officer of the school, Mr. Manfred Oyibode, who confirmed the incident, said: "The Police are handling the matter. It will not be wise for me to make categorical statements on it now."

"He was not killed in the school premises. The news that filtered in said he was just coming out from the hotel when an unknown person shot him. He is not a lecturer, but a non-teaching staff."

The state Commissioner of Police, Mr. Adeleke Adeyinka, who also confirmed the incident, said no arrest has been made, adding that the deceased was an administrative staff of the institution.

...in Katsina

Meanwhile, a lecturer with the Department of Technical Education, Hassan Usman Polytechnic Katsina, Dr. Bello Birchi, was kidnapped by gunmen yesterday.

Vanguard gathered that Birchi was kidnapped at Tashar Bara'u village along Dutsinma Road in Katsina State.

Spokesperson of Katsina State Police Command, SP Gambo Isah, who confirmed the development, said its operatives are making efforts to rescue the man.

Contacted, Chairman of Academic Staff Union of the Polytechnic, ASUP, Dr Sabi'u Yau Abdullahi, said the union is greatly disturbed over the unfortunate incidence.

Meanwhile, at press time no communication had been established with the

kidnappers.

Robber killed

Meanwhile, a robber was reportedly killed and another arrested in a gun battle between the officers and men of Operation Puff Adder and the hoodlums in the state.

The state's Commissioner of Police, CP Sanusi, who confirmed the development while briefing newsmen yesterday, said the bandit was killed when his men raided the hoodlums camp in Illella village in Safana Local Government Area of the state.

According to him, "today (yesterday) at about 1p.m.,

based on a tip-off, Operation Puff Adder led by Divisional Police Officer, Batsari Division, raided one of the bandits camps at Illella village, Safana Local Government Area of Katsina State.

"After a fierce gun duel, the team succeeded in dislodging the hoodlums from the enclaves as a result of which one of the hoodlums was killed during the shootout, while another was arrested alive and the rest took to their heels into the forest."

"The team recovered one 47 rifle with Breach 1986RG8604 and four motorcycles from the bandits."

CP Buba stated.

Mother of 3 slumps, dies during Delta Elders' Walk-to-Health

By Festus Ahon

ASABA—A single mother of three children, Monday, slumped and died during the Delta State Governor Annual Elders' Tournament Walk, with the theme Walk to Health.

The woman, Vanguard gathered, slumped around Total petrol station by traffic light less than two kilometers into the walk which commenced at Abraka Junction in Asaba through Dennis Osadebay Way, Nnebisi Road, Anwai road through to Government House, Asaba.

It was a 10 kilometre walk

that was strictly for Deltans aged 55 and 70 years without gender discrimination.

The deceased, who was identified as Lovett Ighorodhe, was a teacher at the Asagba Secondary school, Asaba.

A source in the school, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the woman was hale and hearty when she left for the walk, adding that she was a native of Aboh in Ndokwa East Local Government Area of the state and in her 50s.

The corpse was said to have been deposited at the morgue of the Federal Medical Centre, FMC.

Wondering how her children would cope without their mother, the source said: "The news of her death came to us as a rude shock. If anybody had told us that she would die even two years time, we would have doubted it."

While describing her as a lively person, he said the woman was in the Guidance and Counselling unit of the school. Vanguard reliably gathered that the woman would be buried on June 22.

Meanwhile, Governor Ifeanyi Okowa, who received the participants at Government House, expressed joy that the elders came out to participate actively in the walk.