

DESOPADEC ex-commissioner laments killing of his brother by suspected herders

●As Delta NUJ urges police to unravel mystery surrounding killing

By Paul Olayemi

FORMER Delta State Oil Producing Areas Development Commissioner, Chief Henry Ofa, yesterday, lamented the brutal killing of his younger brother, Mr Elliot Ofa, by gunmen suspected to be herdsmen, insisting his brother's death might be a case of a carefully planned assassination.

Elliot Ofa, who picked the PDP ticket for Ward 8/13 Oghara, was in the company of four councillorship candidates from Ethiopie West, and travelling to Asaba for Delta State Independent Electoral Commission, DSIEC, screening last week Monday when they were attacked by suspected herdsmen.

The herdsmen were reported



The late Elliot Ofa.

to have shot sporadically at their vehicle, leading to the

death of Elliot, while the two other persons, a man and a woman, were kidnapped but later released.

Narrating his ordeal to members of the Delta State Council of Nigeria Union of Journalists, NUJ, who visited him, Ofa said: "The question I want to ask is why would Elliot, who the four other candidates went to pick at home, be the one the herdsmen shot?

"As I speak, the Ofa family has not been briefed by those who came to pick him from his house. Ordinarily, if the police are alive to their responsibility, the other persons would have been invited and the car involved impounded by now. But as I speak to you, it's the same car they have been using for their little errands.

"Even when the purported

kidnapped persons were released, the vehicle was used to convey them."

He called on the police to do a diligent investigation to bring the killers of Elliot to book.

Meanwhile, the Delta State Council of NUJ has called on the Inspector-General of Police, Mohammed Adamu, and the Police commands in Delta and Edo states to unravel the mystery surrounding the murder of Elliot Ofa.

The state council Chairman, Michael Ikeogwu, said the news of the brutal murder of Elliot came as a rude shock to not only the union but the people of Oghara, Deltans and Nigerians, who knew the murdered young politician as a political gentleman, adding that Elliot's murder had further escalated the unfortunate belief that no one is safe in the country.

Police arrest 8 members of rival cult groups in Ogun