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Man kills aunt, buries her in shallow grave in Calabar

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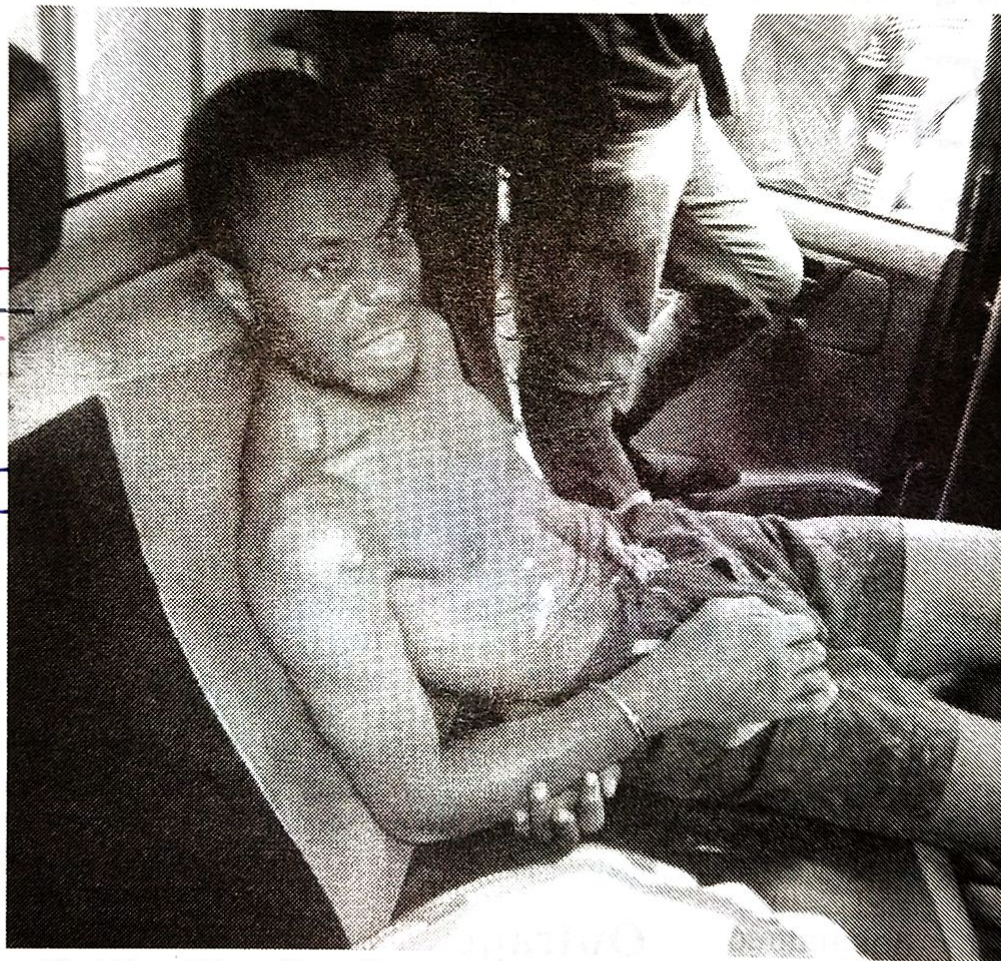
CALABAR—TRAGEDY struck, yesterday, in Calabar when a young man simply identified as Christian Edem Eyo chopped off the head of his aunt, Adam Uwatt, and buried the body in a shallow grave in front of her apartment.

The incident took place at Waddel Street, off Inyang/Afokang Street in the Mbukpa Area of Calabar South Local Government Area.

A cousin to the victim, Miss Ann Uwatt, told *Vanguard* that the woman woke up early in the morning to take her bath outside her apartment when the man, who was laying siege for her grabbed her on the neck and strangled her.

"He grabbed her on the neck so she could not shout and killed her. He, thereafter, cut off her head with a machete and took the head to his room. We suspected he wanted to use the head for ritual," Ann said.

She said members of a church located in the premises, who came to pray early in the morning noticed



Christian Edem Eyo, the suspect.

blood stains around the compound and a newly dug grave and called the police at Mbukpa Police Station who

stormed the place to arrest the suspect. But one of the victims' children, Nkoyo, said it was when the suspect

was trying to bury the body in a shallow grave he dug that someone in a nearby building who saw him invited the vigilantes.

"The person then rushed to the vigilantes to report. The vigilantes in turn reported to the Police and he was apprehended," she said.

A member of the vigilantes in the area who spoke with *Vanguard* said Eyo's father, who lives a few metres away, when informed that the son had killed someone reportedly said: "What is your concern, he killed his aunt, let them go with him, they will release him. He then picked up a shirt and wore, closed his door and went out."

Speaking with journalists at the scene of the incident handcuffed, Eyo admitted to killing the woman, adding that the victim tried to seduce him.

On the grave in his room and the pit where the woman's head was found, he said: "They are for empowerment!" and that "it is an empire, there is another family inside."

Irene Ugbo, the Cross River State Police Command spokesman, who confirmed the incident, said investigations are in progress.