

## \* Attempt to kidnap lawmaker fails as gunmen kill 2, injure others in A'lbom

**G**UNMEN, last Thursday, killed two persons at a traditional marriage ceremony in Uquo community in Esit Eket Local Government Area of Akwa Ibom State.

Mr Usoro Akpanusoh (PDP-Esit Eket/Ibeno) at the Akwa Ibom House of Assembly confirmed this to NAN in Esit Eket, yesterday.

He said the gunmen surfaced at the ceremony with intent to abduct him, but he was lucky to escape after struggling with one of them.

He expressed appreciation to God that he escaped the kidnap attempt in his home

town in Uquo in Esit Eket.

He said: "I went for a traditional marriage in Uquo, Esit Eket with the family of the Deputy Political Leader of Peoples Democratic Party, PDP, in my ward. After staying for about 40 minutes, I bade the couple goodbye and approached my car.

"While attempting to enter my car, I saw a Nissan Sunny that blocked the car and a guy came out with AK-47 rifle and started shooting sporadically into the air and people thought that he was a policeman.

"I saw him pointing the gun at my car and started shooting at people directly and bullets

hit two guys."

Akpanusoh said the abductors removed his driver and approached him and drew him out of his car and attempted to abduct him.

"Fortunately, the driver struggled with the guy and as God would have it, he was able to find his way back to the crowd."

He said scores of others were injured and were rushed to the hospital.

Reacting on the incident, the Police Public Relations Officer in Akwa Ibom, Odiko Macdon, said the Commissioner of Police had asked the Divisional Police Officer in Esit Eket to investigate the incident.