

# Police Kill Suspected Kidnapper, Arrest 4 Others In Delta



Items recovered from the suspects

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Operatives of the Delta State Police Command have neutralized a suspected kidnapper and arrested four other members of a criminal syndicate in Delta State.

The suspects—identified as Twale Golly (33), Michael Kunu (25), Israel Ugwu (30), Ogaga Power (43), and Mercy Kunu (28)—were arrested following several complaints against the syndicate for terrorizing Sapele and its environs.

The suspected leader of the gang, identified as Liberty Kunu, was neutralized during the operation.

The State Commissioner of Police (CP), Aina Adesola, said the deceased suspect was killed during a shootout with the police.

According to the CP, a victim who escaped from the kidnappers reported to the police that three individuals were abducted at the Boyo Road junction in Sapele.

He said while the reporter managed to escape into the bush, the other two victims were robbed of valuables worth N9 million.

The CP added that investigations revealed that the syndicate, led by the late Liberty Kunu, operated under the guise of security volunteers (SOS).

This discovery, he added, led to the arrest of the five-member gang and the recovery of five pump-action guns and one pistol.

The Commissioner further stated that the deceased had led the police to their hideout at the Ibada-Elume community, where an AK-47 rifle and one locally fabricated revolver were recovered.

He said as the police were leaving the hideout, hoodlums suspected to be members of the gang attempted to rescue the deceased, engaging the police in a gun duel that lasted for 10 minutes.

According to the police commissioner, during the exchange, some operatives and the suspect sustained injuries, adding that they were taken to the hospital, where the suspect was confirmed dead.