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**Daily Champion (Lagos)**  
**8 September 2008**

Posted to the web 8 September 2008

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Tony Ita Etim and Dennis Naku,  
 Yenagoa  
 Port Harcourt

Unidentified gunmen yesterday attacked a supply vessel working for Nigerian Agip Oil Company (NOAC), killed a member of the crew and abducted another.

The victims' identities could not be ascertained as at press time.

This is even as the house and property of Mr. Orono Douglas, a senior special assistant to vice president on strategy, research and documentation, were weekend torched by unidentified gunmen at Okoroba community, Ogbia local government area of Bayelsa State.

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Over three persons have been declared missing in the attack carried out by gunmen from nearby Owasiri.

Daily Champion gathered that the service boat identified as Fulmar Lamnaco was sailing from Brass in Bayelsa State to Port Harcourt, Rivers state when it was attacked.

No group has claimed responsibility for the attack but security sources said the vessel was not escorted when it was attacked.

Contacted, the spokesperson for the Rivers State Joint Task Force (JTF) Operation Flush Out 111, Lt. Colonel Sagar Musa confirmed the attack.

He said: "The JTF wishes to emphasise its position that major companies that have reasons to sail through Onne, Bonny sea routes are advised in their own interest to draw the attention of the naval component of the task force to avail them with the services of JTF dedicated gun boats escort deliberately earmarked for that purpose."

He played a situation where a vessel moves in the troubled waters of the Niger Delta unescorted saying it was inimical to the collective effort of securing the waterways and has to be stopped for the good of all.

We also recall that two persons were killed and 16 injured during the invasion of the Okoroba. Most of those injured are lying critically in various hospitals in the state.

Among the missing persons believed to have been kidnapped by the gunmen, is Chief Biombo Andrew-Iko, who is the head of security of the community's Chiefs Council.

Orono's younger brother, Gift Douglas confirmed in a telephone interview with Daily Champion yesterday that "the whereabouts of the three persons

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is not unknown."

He said soldiers attached to the Joint Military Taskforce (JTF) had visited and left the community, adding that most of the inhabitants are yet to return to the tensed community for fear of another attack by the gunmen.

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The whipping of a suspected thief, one Daddy by the community youths may not be unconnected with the invitation of the armed men on the orders of the suspect's mother, Patience John-Nembe, who thought the victim had died from the punishment meted out to his son.

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