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Posted to the web 18 November 2008

From Emma Ogu
Owerri[Email](#) This Page[Print](#) This Page[Comment](#) on this article

Barely 48 hours after men of the police command in Owerri, Imo State capital, arrested three kidnappers who strangled a 10-year-old boy, master Emmanuel Eric junior, in Ikeduru, the operatives at the weekend swooped on two different gangs of suspected kidnappers killing two and arresting six.

An eighty-year-old man, Pa Maurice Uche, father of an Aba based medical doctor, was rescued from captivity alongside Chika Osuagwu.

The suspected kidnappers killed were Leo Duru from Owu Amakohia and Benjamin Okwu from Ikeduru and a worker of NNPC Mega Filling Station in Owerri, while the arrested suspects include Tochi Iwu from Umunri, Umuro Amaimo in Ikeduru LGA, Idris Mohammed from Edo State, Anthony Nka and Christopher Eke both from Umueze1 in Ehime Mbano LGA, Chidiebere Egbim and Nkechi Egbim both from Orji-Umuduru in Isiala Mbano LGA.

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The command Public Relations Officer, Mr. Linus Nwaiwu, who spoke to Daily Champion, said that the gang of Tochi, Leo and Benjamin kidnapped one Chika Osuagwu, an employee of LNG Bonny at works layout Owerri and put him inside the boot of a Toyota car and took him to their hide out at Ihitte Ubi in Ahiazu Mbaize LGA where they demanded for millions of naira ransom from his family. According to him, the same gang on October 7 kidnapped a woman and only released her after the husband paid one million naira ransom.

Nwaiwu further said that the gang of Anthony, Christopher, Chibueze and Nkechi kidnapped 80-year-old Pa Maurice Uche and put him in an ambulance to confuse the police. The group, he said, took him to the house of Nkechi Egbim at Orji-Umuduru in Isiala Mbano where they demanded for a ransom of N5 million for his release.

According to him, items recovered from the gang include one double barrel gun, a pump action rifle, a locally made pistol, a military rifle and 25 live cartridges.

Also, the command on Sunday smashed six-man armed robbery gang which robbed and shot one Pascal Sunny Duruchukwu in Okigwe.

The Police Spokesman, Nwaiwu who gave account of the incident said two members of

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the gang, Chigowe Igwe from Uli in Anambra State and Jerry Ezike from Isiukwuator in Abia state were apprehended while another two others, Nnaemeka Walter, alias Ekenweohia, from Amanku Arondizuogu and Geoffrey Tasie from Isiokwe village in Okigwe who escaped with bullet wounds were later apprehended and set ablaze by a mob who went after them.

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