

Police kill four suspected pipeline vandals

By Shehu Abubakar

Four suspected NNPC pipeline vandals have been shot dead by the police around Kwali area in the FCT for allegedly digging and breaking pipeline to siphon petroleum product.

Five empty jerry cans, a dagger and two hoes were allegedly recovered by the police at the scene of the alleged crime.

Confirming the report, FCT Commissioner of police, Mr. Lawrence Alobi, said his men on pipeline patrol met the suspects when they were trying to break the pipe to siphon petrol.

"The police ordered them to stop the act but the suspects warned the police not to go near them. When the police advanced the vandals opened fire on the police which led to a gun duel between the police and the vandals."

"In the process, three of the vandals were shot and killed instantly by the police. The fourth one who gave his name as Monday Bulus, sustained gun injury and later died at the hospital," he said.

He said the incident occurred on February 19 this year around 1.00pm at night, but could not explain why the

police was not able to recover any arms from the suspects despite claims by the police that the suspects were armed.

"Between Kwali and Abaji

we have recorded several cases of pipeline vandalism and have smashed several gangs of vandals and arrested some of them," he said.

City News investigation

revealed that petroleum products have not been pumped through the pipes that run from Warri and Port-Harcourt refineries to the Northern states for several months now.

However, suspected pipeline vandals have formed the habit of breaking such NNPC lines and siphoning the product remaining in the pipes over time.

Chairman to solve water problem

By Abubakar Sadiq Isah

The chairman of Abaji Area Council, FCT, Alhaji Muhammad Angulu Loko, has assured residence of the council that his administration would address the perennial water scarcity in the council and all rural areas if voted into office for second term.

The chairman, who was speaking during the flagging-off of his campaign in Abaji last weekend, observed that his administration had in the last three years made effort in the execution of various projects both in the council and rural communities among which he said include construction of township roads, hospitals, classrooms, upgrading of rural feeder roads as well as street lights.

The chairman however noted that the scholarship

scheme initiated during his administration would continue to be given priority, assuring students at various tertiary institutions on prompt disbursement of their bursary as at when due.

"In the last three years, we only concentrate on the execution of capital projects both in the council and rural areas. The only thing that remains is to tackle water problem which I am assuring the people of twenty four hours water supply if voted back for second term," he said.

Alhaji Loko, who alleged that the ANPP under his administration had in the last three years experienced verbal attack and criticism from the opposition, said that he had forgiven them and ap-

pealed to the youth of the council to shun electoral violence.

Earlier, the chairman of the All Nigeria Peoples Party (ANPP), Abaji Chapter, Alhaji Yakubu Ibrahim, tasked supporters of the party to vote all ANPP candidates from president to councilor level.

He said that it is through their support and votes that the ANPP would wax stronger and stronger.

Also speaking at the occasion, the chairman, Loko Campaign Committee (LOCCOM), Murtala Ma'aji Nasara, said that the committee had adopted a campaign strategy where people would be convinced on the importance of continuity of administration under the leadership of Alhaji Muhammad Angulu Loko.