

# Gunmen kill 2 Nigerians, kidnap 2 French nationals

Two Nigerians were confirmed dead while two French nationals were abducted by unidentified gunmen on Saturday night at Onne, Rivers State.

The Nigerians, a man and a lady (names withheld), were shot dead by the gunmen at a popular bar known as the "Bush Bar" near the port complex in Onne, from where they equally abducted the French men.

Spokesman of the Joint Task Force in Rivers State, Lt. Col. Sagir Musa, who confirmed the attack, said hoodlums invaded a relaxation spot near the port terminal and abducted two foreign nationals, whose identities were yet to be ascertained.

*Daily Trust* gathered that the abducted French nationals work as captain and third engineer respectively on the Bourbon Absara, a vessel operated by Adax Oil Nigeria Limited.

Sources told our correspondent that six foreigners were inside the bar when the gunmen, who disguised as fellow patrons of the bar, car-

ried out the deadly attack.

The sources added that the gunmen shot indiscriminately inside the bar forcing patrons inside the bar to scamper for safety and in the ensuing stampede, the Nigerian man was shot as he tried to escape.

"Just after the man was killed, a phone held by one of the ladies inside the place rang and the gunmen opened

fire and she fell down and died.

"They took the two expatriates to a waiting bus outside the bar and drove to the waterside. They escaped with a speedboat after setting the bus ablaze", the source said.

Lt. Col. Sagir could not, however, confirm the killing of the two Nigerians, but said that the task force was await-

ing further details of events at the bar.

"We've received reports on the attack on a joint in Onne, where two expatriates were said to have been abducted by hoodlums.

"The hoodlums went to the area in the night through the waterfront and also escaped through the waterfront. We are yet to get the identities of the hostages", he said.

## EFCC arrests ex-NAMA Director

Barely 48 hours after his voluntary retirement, erstwhile Nigeria Airspace Management Agency (NAMA) Director of Human Resources, Dr Jaiye Oyedotun, has been arrested by the EFCC.

Airport sources told the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) in Ikeja yesterday that Oyedotun was picked up in his home on Saturday morning.

Oyedotun had voluntarily handed in his retirement letter to NAMA management with effect from July 31 and

paid one month salary in lieu of notice.

The source said he was billed to travel out of the country at the weekend before EFCC arrested him.

"They were curious that he was travelling out immediately after leaving office.

"There was nothing specific against him but I think the fact that he was going abroad so soon simply attracted their attention," the source added.

Oyedotun's experience came days after NAMA's

Head of

Legal Unit, Mrs Folake St. Matthew-Daniels was also quizzed by the anti-graft body.

When contacted, EFCC spokesman, Mr Femi Babafemi, confirmed to NAN on phone that Oyedotun was picked up at the weekend.

He, however, said he had been released on bail. Oyedotun was with the Federal Airports Authority of Nigeria (FAAN) before being redeployed to NAMA. (NAN)

UPP NEC meets on Obasanjo's term