

Gunmen kill soldier, take his rifle in Bayelsa

From Bassey Willie, Yenagoa

Gunmen suspected to be militants, on Monday, killed a soldier on pipeline surveillance duty in Apoi community in Southern Ijaw Local Government Area (LGA) of Bayelsa State.

The soldier was gunned down and his AK 47 rifle taken away in the forest between Apoi and Azuzuama communities.

This is coming few days after gunmen abducted

an officer of the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) and carted away arms in Ekeremor LGA of the state.

A source told *Daily Trust* that fear had gripped the residents of the communities over a possible reprisal by the military, and that already, some of the residents had started fleeing to neighbouring villages.

The Chairman of Apoi Community Development Committee, Mr Jephthah Keme, said, "As a

community, we are restless, we condemn the attack and are working with the security agencies to give them every necessary information and support to bring the perpetrators to book.

"These people (perpetrators) are not from Apoi and their identities are still unknown. Something like this has never happened here. Because of this incident, our people have fled to neighbouring villages and other places."

44 smugglers nabbed in Lagos Ogun