

## Police kill suspected kidnapper, rescue 2 victims

Usman A. Bello, Benin

Operatives of the Edo State Police Command have killed a suspected kidnapper and rescued two victims.

The suspected kidnapper was killed during a gun duel with the police in an incident that happened on September 22, at Ago-Orio community, along Benin-Lagos Road.

The state's police spokesperson, Chidi Nwanbuzor, confirmed the incident.

He said the police responded to a distress call from distraught indigenes of the Ago-Orio community along Benin-Lagos Road that a four-man armed gang suspected to be kidnappers had taken one Samson Osegbowa, 65, and Stanley Peters, 38, while they were working on their farmland.

He said on receipt of the information, the police in collaboration with the community's local vigilantes embarked on a rescue mission during which one of the kidnappers was killed. He said the victims, who were rescued, have been reunited with their families.

According to him, items recovered at the scene of the crime include one wooden gun, three cutlasses, one torchlight, and a pair of operational shoes.

He said bush combing of the area is still ongoing for possible arrest of the other fleeing gang members.