

Abducted expatriate found dead in Kano

• Naval officer, six others rescued from kidnappers' den in Rivers

From **Murtala Adewale**, Kano and
Ann Godwin, Port Harcourt

AN expatriate with a construction firm, Sagir Ahmed, was found dead 48 hours after he was reported kidnapped by unknown gunmen in Kano State. Sagir, a Lebanese national and employee of Triacta Construction Company, was kidnapped on Tuesday at a site on Dangi roundabout, along Zaria road, Kano.

The assailant had shot dead a Nigerian who drove the Lebanese to the underpass construction project. A worker of Triacta Construction, who pleaded for anonymity because he was not authorised to interface with the press, told *The Guardian* that the management of the com-

pany had received the body of Sagir from the hospital.

He, however, declined to reveal whether the abductors requested for ransom or any form of negotiation before he was killed. When contacted, the Police Public Relations Officer, Abdullahi Haruna, confirmed the killing.

Haruna said the body of the Lebanese was found in Yansango village around Mariri community, Kumbotso local government area of the state.

Meanwhile, a naval officer was among seven kidnap victims rescued by operatives of the Inspector-General of Police Monitoring Unit yesterday in Rivers State. The victims were among 15 passengers on a bus ambushed by

hoodlums on March 3, along Ubima-Omurelu Port Harcourt road.

The other eight victims are yet to regain freedom despite payment of ransom by their families. *The Guardian* gathered that the naval officer is hospitalized following injuries sustained from gunshots.

The commander, IGP Monitoring Unit, Ben Igwe, confirmed the release of the hostages. The seven victims were said to have been released following an order given to residents of Ubima and Omerelu by the commander, to appeal to those involved in the dastard acts to release the victims unconditionally or attract the wrath of the command.

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