

Police neutralise suspected kidnapper, cultist in Rivers

From Obinna Nwaoku,
Port Harcourt

OPERATIVES of the Rivers State Police Command yesterday neutralised a suspected kidnapper and cultist, identified as Gbarani Bume (also known as Pelele), during a raid in the Luawii Community of Khana Local Council.

According to a statement by the Command's spokesperson, Grace Iringe-Koko, the suspect, who was a member of the Iceland cult group, had

been terrorising the Beree/Tabaa axis of Khana Local Council with his gang.

The police acted on a tip-off and intervened when Bume and his gang attempted to abduct a site engineer in Luawii.

Iringe-Koko explained that upon sighting the police, the suspects opened fire, prompting a fierce gunfight. Bume was fatally wounded in the exchange and later succumbed to his injuries, while his accomplices fled



Rivers CP, Mustapha

with bullet wounds.

The police reported that items recovered from the

scene included an AK-47 rifle, two magazines, and 10 rounds of live ammunition.

"This operation is a significant breakthrough in our efforts to combat crime in Beree Community," the Command stated, adding that investigations are ongoing to apprehend the fleeing suspects.

The Rivers State Police Command reiterated its commitment to ensuring public safety and tackling criminal activities across the state.