

Pirates Kill Four, Abduct Six Oil Workers In Bayelsa

● Gunmen Trapped In Jos Prison After Attacking Custodial Centre

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The challenge of insecurity heightened in Bayelsa State on Sunday as pirates

killed four persons and kidnapped six others around the state's waterways in

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separate attacks

The attacks occurred six days after the government re-imposed ban on the use of speedboats with 200 horsepower engines along the state's waterways, among other security measures to curtail upsurge in criminal activities.

Among the victims were said to be oil workers working for the Nigerian Agip Oil Company (NAOC), and personnel of the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC).

They were said to be murdered by the sea robbers in separate ambushes around Okoroma and Ogbokiri-Akassa waterways in the Nembe and

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Brass Local government areas of the state, respectively.

It was gathered that while three NAOC workers were attacked and shot dead, the NSCDC men on escort duty were also shot for trying to repel the invasion, leading to the death of one of them while two were missing.

The six oil workers abducted at Ogbokiri-Akassa were said to be carrying out some maintenance work close to their platform when the pirates attacked and took them away.

It was also learnt that the driver of the boat, said to be an indigene of Nembe LGA, has

been declared missing even as there were fears that he might have also been killed in the incidents.

A source said, "The Agip oil workers and their security personnel were attacked at about 6a.m on Sunday while working close to a manifold in Bayelsa. There was no security personnel with them when the incident happened."

A spokesman for the Bayelsa State Command of the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps, Solomon Ogbere, confirmed the attacks.

He said two of the NSCDC personnel who were missing

had been found and were receiving treatment at the Federal Medical Centre (FMC) in Yenagoa.

Ogbere said, "Yes, our officers were ambushed and attacked by some unknown pirates while on their lawful duty of providing protection to some Agip oil workers close to Obama manifold in Okoroma community of Nembe Local Government Area.

"One personnel was killed while the other two that were missing have been found and are responding to treatment."

Gunmen Trapped In Jos

Prison After Attacking Custodial Centre

Meanwhile, gunmen who attacked the Medium Security Custodial Centre in Jos, Plateau State, are said to be trapped in the prison.

The centre came under attack by gunmen who reportedly stormed the facility in large number with sophisticated weapons.

According to Francis Eno bore, Controller of Corrections (PRO), the invaders were said to have arrived at the Custodial Center about 1720hrs and immediately made for the main gate where they engaged the

armed squad personnel in a gun battle before breaking into the yard.

"Although they gained entrance to the yard, they are however trapped within as men from sister security services were immediately mobilised to assist the armed guards to cordon the perimeter wall and the entire area.

"Reinforcement from the response squad of the service has also been mobilised to the center.

"The situation is presently under control as the attackers firing power is being subdued by superior fire from a combined team of security agencies", Eno bore said.