

NEWS

Naval man killed at NLNG plant

• Others escape from gunmen

THERE was mayhem on Bonny river, Rivers State yesterday when gunmen attacked boats belonging to Nigerian Liquefied Natural Gas (NLNG) and Texaco, killing a naval rating and throwing one overboard.

Another one was injured.

The naval personnel were escorting a boat belonging to NLNG when they were attacked.

The attack on Texaco supply vessel took place at Bouy 35 in Bonny area.

A gun belonging to one of the security men was stolen and the personnel thrown overboard.

It was said that the NLNG boat was chased by

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the gun-men who immediately opened fire on them close to the jetty with high calibre weapons prompting those on land watching to scamper away to save their dear lives.

On hearing of the attack, the NNS *Pathfinder*, Rumuolumeni, Port Harcourt sent an escort boat but before the boat could navigate its way from Rumuolumeni to Bonny river, the gunmen had escaped.

Lt Way, the Navy spokesman said: "Yes, we have the report of the attack. We are collating the facts and within an hour, I will be able to confirm the

details to you."

In the second incident, the attack was said to be on Texaco oil vessel, *MV Patience* where some gunmen in the

same style, overtook it at the Bonny waterways and opened fire on them wounding some of the crew in the process.

After boarding the vessel, the gunmen threw a crew member overboard but he was rescued about 25 minutes later by another boat with no physical harm on him.

After this attack, they sped off into the deep seas while the vessel raised signal to alert other sea going vessels of its problems.