

FLEEING AID OF JOHN TOGO KILLED, ANOTHER ARRESTED BY SOLDIERS

By [SHOLA O'NEIL, WARRI](#) 19/05/2011 16:25:00



At least one suspected militant has been killed while another was captured as the Joint Task Force in the Niger Delta launched an intensive manhunt for leader of the outlawed Niger Delta Liberation Force, 'General' John Togo and members of the group now scattered across the region.

It was gathered that the dead militant was earlier arrested along with his compatriot by soldiers in Aladja, an Urhobo town in Aladja, Udu Local Government Area of Delta State on

Wednesday afternoon.

The circumstances surrounding the death of the deceased suspected militant could not be

independently ascertained, but the JTF said he was shot while attempting to escape after his arrest.

The task force's spokesperson, Lt. Col. Timothy Antigha, who confirmed the report, said the two youths were arrested following a tip-off that members of the group were fleeing into Warri, through the coastal towns in Udu and Ughelli area of the state.

He said, "As part of the on-going mop-up operation, following the sacking of several John Togo camps in Bobou Creek and environs, the JTF is continuing in the pursuit of fleeing militants. In this regard, a JTF check point in Aladja area of Delta State, acting on a tip-off at about 12pm yesterday (Wednesday), apprehended two John Togo militants who were sneaking into Warri.

"One militant attempted to escape, but was shot in the leg to incapacitate him. I regret to inform you that the victim later died. His corpse has been handed over to the Police for further investigation," he added.

Meanwhile, the task force has again reiterated its warning to residents of coastal communities in the Burutu axis against providing safe haven for fleeing members of the militant group, stressing that they could be treated as accomplices.

Meanwhile, Antigha, said troops of the JTF was not relenting in the hunt for the most wanted militant, John Togo, stressing that it was sure that the warlord was holing up somewhere in the creeks.

He said, "We want to warn law abiding citizens to disregard the purported death of John Togo, always remain vigilant and report suspicious individuals milling around their communities to appropriate security agencies for immediate action."