

Six soldiers dismissed for killing NDLEA official in Niger

SIX soldiers allegedly responsible for the death of an NDLEA official, Kingsley Chimetalo, have been court-martialed and dismissed by the Nigeria Army.

Four of the soldiers allegedly involved have been handed over to the police while two others ran away.

The four dismissed soldiers include 24-year-old Sani Munzani, 26-year-old Abubakar Auwalu, 23-year-old Abubakar Sani and 22-year-old Muazu Hassan.

It was learnt that the soldiers killed the NDLEA official in March 2024 when they attacked some NDLEA personnel for stopping them during a stop and search operation at Ramat Junction in Bida.

The fight led to Chimetalo being stabbed in the back with a jack knife by one of the suspects while his rifle was taken away.

The injured officer was taken to FMC Bida where he later gave up the ghost and was confirmed dead.

Justina Asishana - Minna

While investigating the incident, police operatives attached to 'A' Division Bida found the officer's rifle in a nearby bush without a magazine.

After an investigation in collaboration with 18 Brigade, Nigeria Army Bida, six soldiers were identified, court-martialed and dismissed while two others escaped.

The Public Relations Officer, of the Niger State Police Command, Wasiu Abiodun, a Superintendent of Police (SP), said the four suspects were handed over to the police on May 20, 2024 for prosecution.

He added that during interrogation, Sani Munzani confessed to stabbing the deceased.

Abiodun said that all the suspects were under investigation in SCID Minna and would be charged to court for prosecution as soon as investigation was concluded.