

Justice, Mrs Olubola Akinsete,

Justice Inyaang Ekwu,

The prosecution, he said,

only surveyed the sites.  
Justice Ekwu quashed all

# Kidnap attempt claims 4 in P/Harcourt

**BOLAJI OGUNDELE, PORT  
HARCOURT**

FOUR persons, including two soldiers, one mobile policeman and a civilian, were reported killed on Wednesday, during a failed kidnapped attempt on the Nigeria Agip Oil Company (NAOC) base in Port Harcourt.

The Rivers State police command, while confirming the attempted kidnap in Agip, denied losing any of its men, neither a civilian to the attack.

Nigerian Tribune gathered that trouble started when the gang tried to access the base through a backwater jetty, but was discovered by some persons, who raised the alarm, attracting the attention of armed security personnel on the premises of the base.

The armed men, who were suspected to have staged the

attack with an intention to kidnap, had to abort their mission when they saw security operatives closing in on them.

Giving details of the event to the Nigerian Tribune in Port Harcourt, on Wednesday, a community source said the armed gang members, in an attempt to escape from the Agip scene, opened fire on the approaching security team, killing a mobile policeman in the process.

"They killed a MOPOL in that process. On leaving the Agip jetty, they ran into a company of soldiers, ones on guard duty at Saipem, who are from Abak. I guess the kidnappers assumed they had come to intercept them, so, they opened fire on them. At the end of the day, they had killed two soldiers and a civilian," the source said.

Attempts to get military authorities to confirm the

development proved abortive, as neither the Army Public Relations Officer of the 2 Amphibious Brigade, Port Harcourt Barracks, Major Michael Etete, as well as the spokesman of the Joint Task Force (JTF)'s Operation Pulo Shield, Lieutenant-Colonel Onyema Nwa-

chukwu, were reachable.

The spokesman of the Rivers police command, Ahmed Muhammad (DSP), however, confirmed an attempt to kidnap on the premises of NAOC on Wednesday, but denied any loss of police or civilian life in the process.

## NURTW: Wives, family members stage detention of branch chairmen

**YINKA OLADOYINBO AKURE**

Wives and family members of the detained members of the National Union of Road Transport Workers (NURTW) in Ondo State, on Wednesday, took to the street to protest the continuous detention of their husbands after they were arrested by the state police command.

The women, who were mainly wives of some branch chairmen staged the protest at the premises of the State Anti-robbery Squad (SAS), along Oda road, Akure, the state capital.

The aggrieved women and family members, who besieged the state SAS office, along Oda road, in Akure, were wives of the chairmen