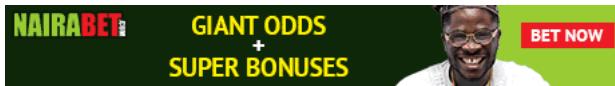


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Millitants attack: 4 Naval officers, 2 others feared dead in Bayelsa (/millitants-attack-4-naval-officers-2-others-feared-dead-in-bayelsa)

May 5, 2016

Written by: Austin Ebipade - Yenagoa

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SIX persons, including four Naval ratings attached to an oil servicing company, are feared dead in Bayelsa State, following an attack by suspected militants.

The incident occurred on Thursday at the Nembe creeks in Nembe Local Government Area of the state.

It was learnt that a senior employee of the oil servicing firm and his wife, identified as Mercy, were among persons reportedly gunned down by the invading gunmen.

While Mercy was said to have been killed on the spot, sources said the whereabouts of the ratings and the oil worker were unknown after the incident.

A security source, who craved anonymity, described the attack as deadly, saying the gunmen took their victims by surprise.

He said the attack occurred at one of the well-heads that supply crude oil to the Nembe Flow Station which formerly belonged to the Shell Petroleum Development Company.

The source said the victims left the flow station, which was reportedly sold to an oil company, ICEO, by SPDC, to inspect the well-head.

He said the wife of the oil worker, who came on a visit, decided to accompany her husband on the inspection tour.

"Immediately they got to the well-head close to the flow station, some militants waylaid them, killed the woman on the spot. The whereabouts of the employee and the naval ratings are still unknown. There are indications that they have been killed by the gunmen," the source said.

The source, a senior security officer, lamented the ongoing attacks on security personnel and military gunboats in the region. When contacted, spokesman for the Central Naval Command, Lieutenant-Commander Edward Yeibo, said though there was an attack, it was not to his knowledge that the ratings were killed.

"What I know is that there was an attack Tuesday morning, but no casualty was recorded. I am not aware of that. There was an attack on three ratings, but no casualty recorded to the best of my knowledge," he said.

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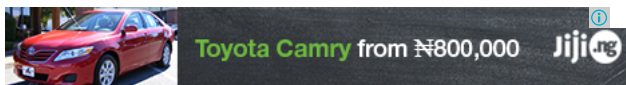
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