

tress call about a man who spokesman said.

DPO's abduction: 2 suspects paraded

He may be presumed dead —CP

ALPHONSUS AGBORH - ASABA

TWO suspects who allegedly kidnapped the Divisional Police Officer in charge of 'C' Division, Asaba, Delta State, SP Valentine Mbalu, were at the weekend paraded in Asaba by the state Commissioner of Police, Mr Ibrahim Zanna, who said they were yet to know the whereabouts of the abducted police officer.

He however said that from the confessional statement made by the two suspects, the officer might be presumed dead.

The suspects were Suleiman Ibrahim a.k.a Carlos (29), a native of Mayo-lope town, Adamawa State, at Aduwawa area of Benin City, Edo State and Yusuf Hamisu of Eyan, Benin City.

According to the police boss, it was not true that the corpse of the DPO was found in Umunede bush as reported by a section of the media.

He disclosed that the Inspector General of Police, had approved the deployment of three sniffer dogs to help locate where the officer was or had been buried, adding that over 270 officers and men had been deployed as

a search party for the kidnapped officer.

Zanna said, "On March 15, 2017, at about 2:30 p.m. while acting on available intelligence, operatives of anti-kidnapping unit of the command arrested suspects who confessed to being members of a five-man gang that kidnapped the DPO.

"They further disclosed that the victim died in their custody on March 6 as a result of his health challenges.

"The suspects have also unveiled the identities of the gang leader and other members of the kidnap gang who operate between Edo, Kogi, Delta, Enugu and Anambra states.

"On further interrogation, the suspects also confessed to the kidnap of two civil servants attached to Delta State Government House, the murder of one police officer and one woman, along Benin/Lagos bye-pass in the month of February."

According to the police boss, one of the suspects, Suleiman Ibrahim allegedly confessed to the crime and narrated how the officer was abducted.