

rectly opposite Bowen The suspects arrested by the OPDS

## OPDS troops arrest 5 vandals, kill 2 kidnap suspects, rescue abducted victim

EBENEZER ADUROKIYA AND  
AUSTIN EBIPADE

NO fewer than five crude oil pipeline vandals were, last weekend, arrested by operatives of the Joint Task Force (JTF), code-named **Operation Delta Safe (OPDS)** at a fishing camp along Isonogbene and Beneside in Bayelsa State.

This is just as two kidnap suspects also met their Waterloo and a kidnap victim rescued during a cross-fire with **OPDS** troops at Omuku Forest in Rivers State.

The names of the suspected vandals, during their parade, were given as Ayebelemi Dressman, Inimotimi Abule, Epemege Frank, Bibowa Anemi and Ngoriduwa Gomogo.

The suspects were reportedly responsible for the detonation of dynamites that resulted in the disruption of the facility of an international oil company located at Tebidaba-Ogboinbiri - Brass pipeline in the outskirts of Imgbiba community of Southern Ijaw

Local Government Area of Bayelsa State.

The arrest was disclosed by Commander, **Operation Delta Safe**, Rear Admiral Apochi Suleiman, during a press conference and parade of the suspects

on Tuesday at the headquarters of **Operation Delta Safe** in Yenagoa, Bayelsa State.

According to him, "following the incident, troops, acting on a tip-off, spotted suspected hideout at a fish-

ing camp along Isonogbene where the three suspects were arrested in connection with the vandalism at Peremabiri Community of Bayelsa State."

Rear Admiral Suleiman, who was represented by

Colonel Danjuma Abdulahi, added that Bibowa Anemi and Ngoriduwa Gomogo were nabbed during a similar operation at Beneside location in Ekeremor Local Government Area of Bayelsa State.

## 2 arrested for allegedly snatching *okada* after stabbing owner

BY ADEWALE OSHODI AND  
JOSHUA OLAGUNDUYE

TWO suspected robbers, Nurudeen Sodi (19) and Sulaiman Adeleke (23), have been arrested by the Oyo State Police Command for allegedly snatching a Bajaj motorcycle in Oyo town.

According to the state Commissioner of Police, Abiodun Odude, during a press briefing last Thursday, the two suspects, alongside a third accomplice who is still on the run, had waved down the motorcycle rider, asking him to take them to another part of town.

"On their way, the suspects attacked the rider, inflicted him with injury

on the neck and fled with the bike.

"However, the alarm raised by the victim attracted sympathisers and nearby policemen, who mobilised and arrested two of the suspects," the commissioner said.

While narrating how the incident unfolded, Nurudeen, an electrical apprentice, said he was returning home from work when he and Sulaiman met one Alfa Sodi, his primary school classmate.

"Alfa Sodi was even the one who called me, and after the usual greetings, he asked where we were going, and I said we were trekking home to Babandagbe area.

"We informed him we had no money, but he said

he would pay our transport fare. He said he was going to Oroki, and he suggested we should move together, so he stopped an *okada* for us.

"It was around 7:30p.m. then the three of us mounted the motorcycle. Alfa Sodi sat behind the *okada* rider, then Sulaiman sat behind him and I sat at the back.

"On our way, as we were about to turn to our street, Alfa Sodi just brought out a scissors and stabbed the motorcycle rider on the neck, and we all fell down.

"Then the *okada* rider shouted thief, then Alfa Sodi absconded. Sulaiman and I initially wanted to help the man, but when we saw that peo-

ple were moving towards our direction, we took to our heels until we were arrested," Nurudeen said.

The second suspect, Sulaiman, a bricklayer, denied that they knew beforehand of the operation to steal a motorcycle, saying when he met Alfa Sodi, he knew something was not right about him.

"Before we even boarded the *okada* with him, I told Nurudeen that Alfa Sodi looked like a criminal and that we shouldn't trust him. We didn't plan anything with him. We didn't even know that he was with a pair of scissors," Sulaimon said.

However, the police countered the claim of the suspects that a scissors

was used to stab the victim, saying a machete was used.

The police also revealed that after the crime, Sulaiman was first arrested and taken to the police station, before members of the Oodua Peoples Congress (OPC) ran after Nurudeen and the third accomplice.

"Luckily, the OPC members were able to apprehend Nurudeen, and when he was taken to the police station, he denied knowing the second accomplice, Sulaiman. However, the one kept mentioning his name, saying he was the one who said they should both go to his (Nurudeen's) house at Babandagbe area of Oyo.