

# Metro

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... crime, security, court

## 3 kidnappers, soldier killed in Kogi gun duel Gang member, victim wounded

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- LOKOJA

**N**O fewer than three suspected kidnappers and an army officer were on Tuesday killed on Okene-Ajaokuta road, Kogi State.

One of the suspected kidnappers was also said to have been arrested after a gun duel with members of Operation Cat Race deployed in the state.

An oil magnate, Alhaji Otinau Momohjimoh, who was abducted about 10 days ago and some other captives in

the custody of the kidnappers were however rescued, the *Nigerian Tribune* learnt.

Information gathered revealed that the kidnappers had demanded ransom before they could release the oil magnate who was abducted in front of the mosque where he had gone to pray.

However, when the demanded ransom was to be delivered at an agreed spot, the person taking the ransom to the kidnappers was said to have gone with some military officers operating in the state.

Sources further said that on getting to the agreed spot the

kidnappers sighted the army officers that accompanied the victim's family member and opened fire on them.

In the melee that ensued, three of the kidnappers were killed, while an army officer and Momohjimoh were also hit by the bullets from the

kidnappers.

The soldier, who was said to be the youngest among those that went for the operation, reportedly died on his way to the hospital, while the victim survived the attack.

The remains of the deceased were said to have

been deposited at the mortuary of the Okene General Hospital, while the injured victim was also receiving treatment in an undisclosed hospital.

When contacted, the Public Relations Officer of the Command Army Record, Lokoja,

Captain Weri Finik said the exercise was a going one and could not firm the casualty figure.

He however said the mand would make the details of the exercise it might have been completed.

