

2 Two kidnappers killed while collecting ransom in Kogi, victims freed

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TWO kidnappers were in the early hours of Tuesday gunned down in Kogi State while collecting ransom from family members of their victims.

Following an intelligence report, hunters in Okehi Local Government Area of the state ambushed the kidnappers who came to

Abobo area behind Nigerian Iron Ore Mining Company in Itakpe to collect the ransom demanded before they would release their victims.

Two of the three kidnappers were killed in the process while one escaped into the bush with gunshot wounds, just as the captives were freed in the operation.

The Divisional Police Officer (DPO) in Okehi Local Govern-

ment Area, Ovanja Yakubu, said operatives had been drafted to join the hunters to trace the third kidnapper.

Reacting to the incident, the state governor, Alhaji Yahaya Bello, who spoke through his Chief Press Secretary, Onogwu Muhammed, maintained that the state would not accommodate criminals who want to deprive the people

of their peace.

The governor said he was elected and sworn in to protect the lives and properties of the people and he would ensure such covenant is kept for posterity.

The governor commended the hunters and conventional security agencies for their efforts at rooting out criminal elements from the state.