

④ Vigilante killed as operatives rescue kidnap victim in Benue

Johnson Babajide | Makurdi

SUSPECTED kidnappers have killed a member of the Benue State Volunteer Guards identified as Peter Ejembi.

The vigilante was said to have been killed during a gun duel between suspected kidnappers and combined team of security operatives, including police, while trying to rescue some kidnap victims.

It was gathered that the incident occurred on the Otukpo-Onitsha road on Tuesday when the kidnappers intercepted a Toyota Hiace bus and abducted some passengers.

Confirming the incident in a statement, the state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Catherine Anene, said at about 11:30p.m., a Toyota Hiace bus en route Otukpo-Onitsha was attacked by kidnappers who abducted some passengers.

Anene said: "A joint patrol team made up of the police, military and vigilante operating within the area moved swiftly to the scene for a rescue operation.

"After an intense gun duel, the kidnappers abandoned the vehicle and took to their heels."