Gunmen kill retired squadron leader, kidnap son in Plateau

The son has been released—OISH spokesperson

Isaac Shobayo | Jos

A retired squadron leader has been killed, while her son was kidnapped and one other person shot in Jos North Local Government Area of Plateau State.

Nigerian Tribune learnt that the residence of the retired officer, identified as Mrs Hellen Godos, was attacked in the Dong area of council by a gang of kidnappers at about 8:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve.

It was further learnt that on arrival in the area, the kidnappers shot sporadically into the air to scare residents before they proceeded to the residence of the retired squadron leader and forced themselves into the house.

A resident in the house who escaped by the whiskers disclosed that some of the kidnappers positioned themselves around the house, while four of them entered the building

and attempted to abduct the woman's son, which she resisted.

The source said: "In the process of pleading and trying to hold back her son from being taken away, one of the kidnappers shot the woman at close range."

"The retired squadron leader died on the spot and another occupant was shot in the leg before the hood-lums went away with the son."

He said the incident had been reported to security agents, including hunters and vigilantes, who were already combing the hills in the area to rescue the son and arrest the perpetrators.

When contacted, the Media Information Officer for Operation Safe Haven (OPSH), Captain Oya James, confirmed the incident.

He, however, said the deceased's son had been released, adding that the manhunt for the perpetrators was still ongoing.