

# Police kill kidnap suspect, rescue victim in Delta

## • Mob lynches suspected phone thief in Warri

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**1** OPERATIVES of the Delta State police command have killed a suspected kidnapper and rescued an abducted victim in Ugborikoko in Warri South Local Government Area.

A statement issued by the state Police Public Relations Officer, Bright Edafe, said the incident happened in the late hours of Wednesday.

The statement said the operatives received information about Kidnap suspects who were travelling towards Agbarho in their victim's car.

The DPO of Agbarho Division then deployed operatives on the Warri-Ughelli Expressway to carry out an intensive stop-and-search with a view to rescuing the victim and arresting the suspects.

In the process of carrying out the search, they intercepted a Mercedes GLK SUV that matched the description of the victim's vehicle.

The occupant of the vehicle, one Oghenetega Ovwa, was arrested after a pump action gun with six rounds of cartridges was discovered in the car.

During the course of investigation, the suspect led the police to their hideout at Ogborikoko where his gang members engaged the police in a gun duel.

The arrested suspect was killed in the process while his gang members escaped into the bush.

According to the police, the

kidnapped victim was rescued while a manhunt for the escaped suspects is ongoing.

**2** In another development, a suspected phone snatcher was reportedly lynched by a mob at Igbudu Market in Warri Local Government Area of Delta State on Christmas Eve.

The suspected thief was alleged to be a member of a three-man gang that had gone on an operation in the market on the fateful day.

It was gathered that their victim, a female trader, raised the alarm that attracted a member of an 11-man security committee put in place by the chairman of Warri South Local Government, Dr Michael Tidi, to check the activities of hoodlums in the market.

The two other members of the gang took to their heels when they saw the member of security committee approaching.

It was learnt that the two had kept watch for their colleague who was busy dispossessing the female trader of her phone.

He initially denied dispossessing the female trader of her handset after he was caught and interrogated but when he was searched, the woman's phone and two other stolen phones were found on him.

The mob that had gathered reportedly lynched the suspect upon the discovery of the stolen items in his possession.

The state PPRO, Bright Edafe, confirmed the incident.