

# ② Customs, army repel smugglers' attack in Lagos, kill one

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THE Federal Operations Unit, Zone A (FOU A) of the Nigeria Customs Service (NCS), late on Monday, stated that its officers, in collaboration with men of the Nigerian Army, have repelled an attack from a smuggling gang, killing one in the ensuing melee, while a Customs officer sustained injury.

FOU Zone A, in a statement signed by its spokesman, Theophilus Duniya, explained that the incident occurred on Sunday morning, June 2, at about 3:00a.m.

"A joint patrol team comprising FOU Zone A personnel and some soldiers intercepted a boat carrying smuggled rice and vehicles by the waterside in Badagry, Lagos State.

"While evacuating the goods, a group of men, led by an individual armed with

charms and a machete, attacked the team, injuring a Customs officer in the face and a soldier on the leg.

"The personnel, acting in self-defence, maimed the leader of the gang to prevent him from inflicting more injuries on operatives and evacuated him for immediate medical attention. Unfortunately, he later died en route to the hospital.

"The Comptroller of FOU A, Kola Oladeji, commended the army and Customs personnel for their bravery and professional conduct in the face of the dangerous attack.

"He reiterated the unit's commitment to combating smuggling and urged parents and community leaders to discourage their wards from engaging in criminal activities that could put their well-being and other citizens at risk," the Customs statement read.