

Police kill four notorious kidnappers, arrest suspected criminals in Delta

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DELTA State police command has recorded significant breakthroughs in its fight against crime, killing four suspected kidnappers and arresting one.

The police also arrested suspected cultists in separate operations across the state.

It was learnt that on March

9, at about 11:30p.m, operatives of the CP Special Assignment Team arrested a suspect attempting to purchase ammunition for an AK-47 rifle.

During interrogation, the suspect disclosed the location where the weapon was hidden.

Acting on this intelligence, according to Bright Edefe, the state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), officers stormed a bush along the rail-

way line in Agbarho.

He said upon sighting the police, the kidnappers opened fire, engaging the operatives in a gun battle.

"In the exchange, four suspected kidnappers sustained critical gunshot injuries.

"One AK-47 rifle with a magazine was recovered. The injured suspects were rushed to Ughelli General Hospital but were later confirmed dead by medical personnel.

"Their bodies have been deposited in the hospital's morgue, while efforts to apprehend other fleeing gang members are ongoing," said the PPRO.

In a separate development, the police apprehended a suspected kidnapper following intelligence provided by an informant.

Edefe said: "On March 12, at around 11:00a.m, a resident of Ibusa reported that his friend's wife had been

kidnapped on March 7, and he had been tasked with delivering the ransom and food supplies to the abductors.

"Acting on this information, the Divisional Police Officer (DPO) of Ibusa police station, in collaboration with local vigilantes, launched a raid on a hideout in the bush, leading to the arrest of one Abdulahi (surname withheld).

"The suspect is currently in custody and investigations are ongoing."

"Also, on March 13, at approximately 6:30 a.m, the CP Special Assignment Team carried out a sting operation at Agbogidi area of Warri South Local Government Area.

"During the operation, officers intercepted a tricycle occupied by two men, Gideon (34) and Godstime (27).

"A search of the tricycle led to the recovery of a locally-made, cut-to-size firearm loaded with two live cartridges, concealed in the en-