

# JTF recovers expatriate's corpse from Ogbogoro River

## IBANGA ISINE

**T**ROOPS from the Joint Task Force on Saturday morning recovered the corpse of an unidentified expatriate floating on the Ogbogoro River in the Obio Akpor Local Government Area of Rivers State.

*Sunday Punch* learnt that the JTF deployed its troops to Ogbogoro, Ozuoba and Rumuekini - all communities in Obio Akpor - following the killing of three elders by suspected cultists on Thursday.

A source in the community said that soldiers, who were on a patrol duty along the waterfront in Ogbogoro, spotted a corpse floating on the river in the early hours of the day.

He said, "When they got closer, they discovered that it was a white man and they removed the corpse. We don't know how the man

died, but it seems that he was killed by the boys when the soldiers invaded the community yesterday (Friday)."

When contacted, the JTF spokesperson, Major Sagir Musa, confirmed the recovery of the expatriate's corpse. He said that soldiers spotted the unidentified

body while they were patrolling the Ogbogoro waterfront in search of cultists and militants who killed three community leaders in the area.

Musa said that the appropriate government authority would soon carry out an autopsy to determine the identity of the corpse.

## FG commissions 24-year old youth development centre

**T**HE Federal Government finally broke the jinx surrounding the hitherto abandoned Youth Development Centre, located at Owode-Egba in Ogun State, when the 24-year old project was finally inaugurated.

The inauguration, which took place over the weekend, was well attended by all the stakeholders in the youth development sector, including the representatives

of international agencies and NGOs.

Speaking at the event, the Minister of Youth Development, Senator Akinlabi Olasunkanmi, observed that in building the the youth centre, the Federal Government was concerned about providing institutional framework that would support sustainable implementation of youth programmes aimed at empowering the Nigerian youth.

He said, "Our men spotted the corpse of an unidentified expatriate in the Ogbogoro River early this morning. The body has been recovered and will be handed over to an appropriate authority to commence the process of identifying the victim."

The JTF spokesman said that six suspected militants

had been arrested in connection with the killing of the Ogbogoro chiefs.

The Rivers State capital has been embroiled in a large-scale unrest being perpetrated by militants and cultists since July, leading the state government to order a dusk-to-dawn curfew three weeks ago.

to be located in Borno, Katsina, Anambra, Bayelsa, Rivers and Osun states.

Olasunkanmi enjoined the communities where the centres are to be located to emulate the gesture of Owode-Egba community by making land available for the construction of the proposed centres.

He observed that youth centres are important institutions in today's world for the effective delivery of Government youth agenda.

This fact, he said, was underlined by the global competitiveness, as the Nigerian government was determined to encourage Nigerian youths in the realisation of their full potential.

In line with the 1984 National Youth Development Centres project, government will, in 2008, commence the construction of six additional Youth Development Centres