

Adedipe (SAN) representing the PDP – that there was no evidence of conduct of election in their various areas on April 11.

Earlier on Wednesday, another army officer, Capt. Garba Sani, who led an army patrol in Tai Local Government Area during the election, appeared before the tribunal on the strength of the subpoena served on the Chief of Army Staff, testifying that election did not hold in the entire area on April 11.

With the army officers' appearance at the tribunal, the petitioners at the end of the Thursday hearing had called 39 witnesses.

The army officers who were led in evidence by their lawyers, Chief Akin Olujinmi (SAN) and Chief Niyi Akintola (SAN), denied the allegations levelled against them by the respondents' lawyers that they appeared before the

Area of Enugu State, where the group informed widows that they are protected

Soldiers, militants' clash claims three in Delta

A least three persons were confirmed killed while others sustained injuries when the Joint Task Force (Operation Pulo Shield), engaged suspected militants in a gun duel in Delta State, The Cable reports.

The commander of the force, Alani Okunlola, disclosed this in Warri during a press briefing on Thursday.

Parading a suspect allegedly arrested with various arms and ammunition, Okunlola said the operation took place in Benigboye community of Burutu Local Government Area of the state on September 5.

He said, "My men raided a militant camp in Benigboye. On sighting the troops, the

under the law, identified a number of negative widowhood practices in the

suspects opened fire which led to a gun battle that lasted for 30 minutes before they fled the camp. In the follow up operation on September 6, my troops, on getting information on the hideout of the suspected militants that attacked Odimodi community, launched a search operation and apprehended one Ebiwame Lamia."

Okunlola added that during preliminary investigation, Lamia confessed that he was in the camp during the previous raid.

He quoted Lamia as saying that three persons died in the gun battle while some escaped with bullet wounds.

The commander said the

mourning period and forcing a widow to wear mourning clothes for a year.

JTF was in search of the fleeing suspects and urged the people to assist the troops with useful information that could lead to their arrest.

He listed weapons recovered from the camp to include medium machine gun, AK 47, light machine gun and AK 47 automatic rifle.

Okunlola added that other weapons recovered were SMG, G3 rifles, one single barrel gun, and Improvised Explosive Device and an identity card.

He said the recovered arms and ammunition were in the custody of his men. The suspect, who claimed to be 17 years old, told reporters that he was a cook in the camp of the militants.

We received a distress call

The witnesses were Capt. Sadiq Abubakar (leader of the patrol troops in Al...