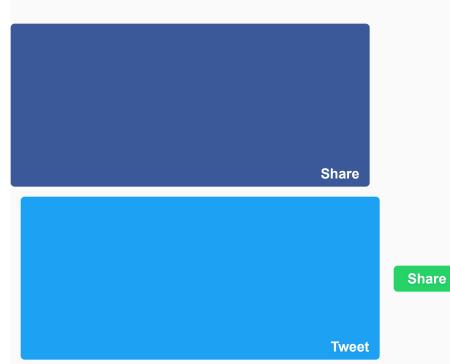
Soldiers kill kidnap kingpin in Akwa Ibom

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File Photo: Soldiers

Etim Ekpimah, Uyo

Soldiers at Ikot Andem village, in the Ukanafun Local Government Area of Akwa Ibom State, have killed a suspected kidnap kingpin, Item Ebehe.

A bystander, who asked not to be identified, on Wednesday said Ebehe was apprehended by some indigenes, who handed him over to the military. He said the soldiers shot him dead.

It was gathered that Ebehe was behind the killing of a father of three, Imoh Etuk, and one Chief Eno David, on Tuesday.

A resident of the area, Mr. Friday Eyo, said the suspect was arrested while going for a meeting with his gang members.

He added that other members of the gang escaped arrest.

"A group of residents who constituted a task force

team arrested the kingpin in Ikot Andem village.

"The youths handed him over to the soldiers who shot him dead. The entire village is happy about the killing of the murderer," he said.

The Assistant Director, Public Relations, Brigade 2, Nigerian Army, Major Umar Shuaib, could not be reached for comment as his telephone rang out.

He did not also respond to a text message sent to his telephone on the incident as of pres time.