

Operatives kill two abductors in gun battle, arrest one

Published January 12, 2019



File photo

Chukwudi Akasike, Port Harcourt

Two kidnappers were on Friday shot dead by operatives of the Rivers State Police Command and men of the Inspector-General of Police Monitoring Unit.

ADVERTISING



The police also arrested one the hoodlums with bullet wounds during the exchange of gunfire in Khana Local Government Area of the state, while a kidnap victim was rescued by the police.

Speaking with journalists in Port Harcourt, the state Police Public Relations Officer, Nnamdi Omoni, disclosed that the operatives had raided the kidnappers' den at about 1am on Friday.

Omoni explained that the hoodlums had abducted a woman in Woji, Port Harcourt, and taken her to a bush in Khana Local Government Area of the state.

The state PPRO, who spoke on behalf of Rivers State Commissioner of Police, Mr Usman Belel, added that while the sum of N1m had been taken as ransom by the kidnappers, they still held their victim hostage.

He pointed out that the kidnappers were behind the series of abductions recorded in some parts of Ogoniland.

“The new Commissioner of Police in River State, Usman Belel, upon resumption of duty in the state, promised to tackle insecurity head on.

“They kidnapped a lady on the January 7, 2019 around Woji in Port Harcourt and took her to Khana Local Government Area. They (kidnappers) collected N1m from relatives of the victim.

“The police invaded the camp of the kidnappers around 1am, in Khana Local Government Area. The kidnappers engaged our men in a gun battle and in the process, two of the criminals were killed and one of them was apprehended.

“The one we arrested is cooperating with police and we have launched a manhunt for others who are currently at large,” Omoni said.

Narrating her ordeal in the kidnappers’ den, the rescued victim disclosed that her captors gave her only two sachets of water, adding that no food was given to her for the four days she was in the forest.

The victim explained that she was blindfolded for 48 hours until the police came to her rescue, adding that she was grateful to the operatives who ensured she was not killed by the kidnappers.