

with their son." After a while, Osatuyi proceeded to a sports viewing Yaba, where they continued PUNCH Metro that his death

Benue demolishes building used to keep commissioner's wife, kidnappers killed

John Charles, Makurdi

THE Benue State Government, on Monday, demolished the building where the Operation Zenda security outfit killed three suspected kidnappers and rescued the wife of the Commissioner for Land and Survey, Mrs Ann Uneegbe. Governor Samuel Ortom, who was at the state police command headquarters in Makurdi, told journalists that he had ordered the demolition of the building in line with the provisions of the law on the prohibition of abduction, hostage-taking, kidnapping, cultism and other related offences.

The building, located at the BIPC Quarter, Nyinma layout, Makurdi, was pulled down by a



• The house being demolished

bulldozer.

Speaking on the incident, the

Security Adviser to the Governor, Col Paul Hemba (retd.), said the

action was in line with the law of the state, adding that the structure was being used by kidnappers to keep their victims and negotiate ransoms.

Hemba urged landlords to ensure proper profiling of would-be tenants before giving out their houses to them to avoid the demolition of such property.

The security adviser said the right of occupancy on the land, where the house was built, would be revoked in accordance with the law of the state.

He noted that three suspected kidnappers were killed when policemen invaded the house on a rescue mission on Monday.

The policemen were able to rescue the commissioner's wife and her driver, who were

abducted last Thursday around 6 pm in Makurdi.

Two pump action and one AK-47 rifles were recovered from the deceased kidnappers.

Ortom said the feat recorded by the police would send a strong message to other criminals that Benue was not a safe haven for them.

The governor stated, "I am here at the police headquarters to commend the AIG and the immediate past police commissioner and the Operation Zenda operatives, who came together to crack these Pharaohs that have been terrorising the state in the last few weeks.

"They have been able to apprehend the kidnappers after a heavy gun duel. They also succeeded in rescuing

pictures and from there, some students went for other

asked who the person was and I was informed that it

the lounge before the night. Before his corpse was taken

keep commissioner's

the commissioner's wife and her driver. We will not give up despite all the challenges."

The command's Public Relations Officer, DSP Catherine Anene, who

confirmed the rescue of the commissioner's wife, said three suspected kidnappers died from gunshot injuries during the rescue operation.

Anene added that five

suspects had been arrested, while others were at large.

She said an AK-47 rifle loaded with double magazines and two double-barrelled guns loaded with ammunition were recovered.

Police parade 26 suspects over killing of Imo DPO, police stations' attacks



• Some of the suspects

Chidiebube Okeoma, Owerri

THE Imo State Police Command, on Monday, confirmed the arrest of 26

officer, one of the bandits, Emmanuel Nnaji, 15, a native of Awala in the Ideato South LGA of Imo State, was arrested with bullet wounds and brought to the station.

single-barrelled locally-made pistols, eight live cartridges, charms, two bags of weed suspected to be Indian hemp, Biafran flag and beret, ESN cap, four pairs of army camouflage uniforms and a camouflage bag, and a signboard with the Biafra insignia.

"It is on good record that it was in the same hotel that the head of a young man was severed and placed on the road close to the hotel premises. Presently, investigation is ongoing and the suspects are undergoing interrogation.

"The command's tactical teams and special forces, after diligent gathering of technical intelligence, arrested one

Soldier stabs Ibadan tailor for alleged disrespect