

Ex-Bayelsa gov candidate's brother, four cops feared killed

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NO fewer than four policemen and one civilian have been feared dead in Bayelsa State after a gunboat on patrol duty reportedly crushed their ferry on Wednesday.

The civilian, Odi Lyon, was said to be the younger brother of a former governorship candidate of the All Progressives Congress in the state, David Lyon.

Odi was said to be the Operations Manager of Darlon Oil and Gas Limited, an oil surveillance company in the Niger Delta owned by the senior Lyon.

PUNCH Metro learnt that one of the aides to the senior Lyon, identified as Ogbojimo, however, survived the incident, which occurred between Ogbunugbene and Ondewari communities near Korokorosei around 1.40am on Wednesday.

One of the deceased officers was said to have managed to swim to the shore but died before he could get to a health facility at Olugbobiri.

His corpse, it was learnt, had been recovered while the remaining victims had yet to be found.

The circumstances surrounding the incident could not be immediately ascertained but it was learnt that the 200 horsepower engine boat of the victims stopped abruptly for yet-to-be-disclosed reasons, before the gunboat overran



•Bayelsa CP, Ben Okolo

them.

Claims that the gunboat mistook the occupants of the boat for pirates or militants allegedly disturbing the area could not also be verified as of press time.

The spokesman for the Bayelsa State Police Command, Asinim Butswat, confirmed that four officers were missing.

He said, "On July 25, 2022, around 8pm, a boat conveying policemen on surveillance capsized at Korokorosei waterways, in the Southern Ijaw Local Government Area. One policeman's body was recovered, while three are missing.

"The command is yet to establish the circumstances surrounding the unfortunate incident. Divers have been deployed in the area for possible rescue of the missing persons."