

## 3 Gunmen kill two soldiers, kidnap expatriate, others in Rivers

Dennis Naku, Port Harcourt

Information emerged on Friday that gunmen allegedly killed two soldiers attached to the Ekaago-Ogboloma-Adada Road project in the Abia/Odual Local Government Area of the Rivers State.

The miscreants were also said to have abducted an expatriate, and three others working at the site of the project, being executed by the state government on Tuesday.

It was gathered that the two

soldiers were killed by the gunmen to pave the way for the abduction of the foreman, a foreigner, handling the project.

The assailants it was further gathered went away with the rifles of the slain soldiers, whisked the foreman, three other workers at the project site and a farmer they met while fleeing.

A community source, who pleaded anonymity for fear of being identified, told journalists that the hoodlums, after taking their captives shot aimlessly into

the air before escaping through a nearby river in Akani community in Abia/Odual LGA.

The source stated that following the development, residents of Emelego, Ogboloma and Okolomade communities fled out of fear.

The source stated, "Some hoodlums came to the Ogboloma road construction site on Tuesday with the intention of kidnapping the white man handling the road project. They laid an ambush and waited for them to resume duty. So, on sighting the army, they shot and killed the two personnel.

"They also kidnapped the foreman, three other workers and one farmer who was returning from the farm in Ogboloma community. They took away the rifles of the soldiers and escaped through Esala River after serious shooting."

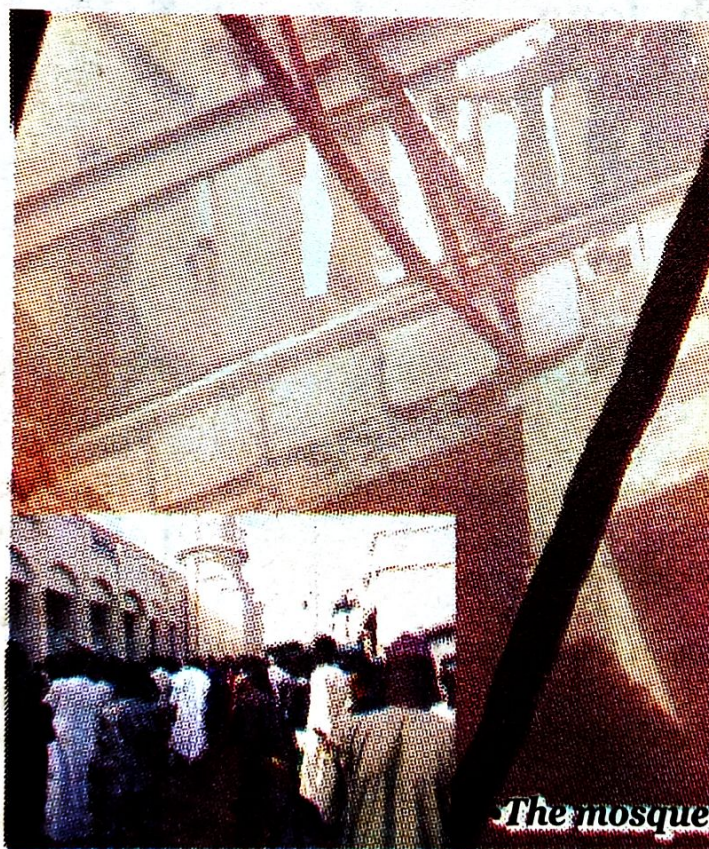
"With this, the army came to make some arrests in Emelego and Ogboloma communities but we are all living in fear. We all have been sleeping in the bush; there is panic everywhere because we don't know the next move the army will make."

Efforts to reach the spokesperson for the 6 Division, Nigeria Army, Port Harcourt, Lt.-Col Iweha Ikedishi, proved abortive as he did not answer calls put across to his mobile phone. Also, he had yet to reply to a text message sent to him as of the time of filing this report on Friday evening.

## 0-year-old mosque collapses in Zaria

incident happened and unfortunately eight people died while 25 people were rescued after the incident.

"The state Commissioner of Police has directed a full-scale investigation, with a view to unveiling the cause of the collapse. But currently, we know that there was this ancient building built by one of the emirs in the past and it has been there I think for more than 100 years. It was not demolished even after the renovation of the mosque."



The mosque