

Soldiers arrest 5 pirates

From Femi Folaranmi, Yenagoa

• Gunmen kill one

TROOPS of Sector 2 Operation Pulo Shield have arrested five suspected sea-pirates along Sangala Creek in Southern Ijaw Local Government Area, Bayelsa State.

Reports indicated that troops were on patrol of the area when they ran into the suspected sea-pirates and subsequently arrested them.

Coordinator of the Joint Military Campaign Centre, Col. Isa Ado, who confirmed the ar-

rest gave their names as Gabriel Abel, Ebiaredia Godday, Samson Ezekeil, Gift Enihus and Richard Christian.

Ado said that four short guns, four cartridges, 12 mobile handsets were recovered from the suspects.

He said that the suspects, arms and ammunition recovered from the suspects are in custody of Operation Pulo Shield. He said after preliminary investigations, they would be handed over to appropriate authorities for prosecution.

Meanwhile, a seven-man sea pirate gang has attacked a local boat, killing a 25-year-old man simply identified as ThankGod, leaving six crew members severely injured in Brass Local Government Area of the state.

According to the crew-members who spoke to newsmen in Yenagoa, the incident took place along the Borma rice farm axis of the Brass/Ogbia/Yenagoa route.

The manager of the boat, Mr Kemelayefa Gabriel, recounting their ordeal, said that they were on their way to Yenagoa from Brass after the close of work for the year when they were attacked.

According to him, when they got to Borma rice farm axis of the Brass/Ogbia/Yenagoa route a speedboat conveying seven armed men suspected to be pirates came out from a narrow creek and started shooting at the boat.

"In the process a bullet hit ThankGod on the head and he died on the spot. After minutes of shooting at us, they stopped and entered the boat and started beating us with their guns. They robbed us and sped-off," he said.

NDLEA seizes as biscuits ar

By Louis Iba

THE National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) yesterday said it had intercepted a truck load of cannabis concealed in biscuits and cheese

balls packages. The discovery of the drug weighing 3,542.25kg was made by the officers and men of the Agency in Ogun State along Odeda axis of Ijebu-Igbo Ijebu North Local Government of the state. Two suspected can-



Orizu: