

Chief of Ogun Traffic Compliance and Enforcement Agency (TRACE) Mr Babatunde Akin-

vehicle marked AJG 40 XA.

Akinbiyi said the fuel truck travelling towards Ibadan

the bus died on the spot, adding that they have been evacuated.

Boat captain shot dead in Bayelsa

From **Femi Folaranmi**,
Yenagoa

THE Bayelsa State Police Command is investigating the circumstances surrounding the killing of a boat captain by gunmen in military uniforms at the weekend in Southern Ijaw Local Government Area.

The boat captain in the state claimed that the armed men were soldiers deployed by the Joint Force OPS to patrol the waterways following recent attacks on oil pipelines by militants.

Investigation revealed that the deceased boat captain, simply identified as Ernest, a native of Olugbobiri, was a Community Liaison Officer (CLO) to one of the firms repairing damaged oil pipelines of Agrip.

Further findings indicated that the late Ernest was returning with his workers from Twon-Brass in a speedboat when he met his tragic end along the Okigbene creek.

Eyewitnesses said when the deceased came in contact with the men in military

uniforms from the opposite direction, he was flagged down.

However, because militants and sea pirates in the creeks also go about in military fatigue, he may have refused to stop.

According to a source, "Ernest and the others in the speedboat thought these might be some militants or sea pirates and so; he may have refused to stop even when a warning shot was

fired by the soldiers. As he tried to speed off, they shot and killed him."

A concerned Niger Delta environmental activist who spoke on condition of anonymity, said: "Life in the creeks is so cheap and brutish all due to the Black Gold sourced in the environment.

The Operation Pulo Shield OPS could not be reached for comment, as the mobile phone of its spokesman, Col Isa Ado, was not going through.

4 policemen escape death

By **Christopher Oji**

IT was a narrow escape yesterday for four policemen in Lagos as a suspected drunken driver rammed into their vehicle.

The operatives attached to the Rapid Response Squad (RRS) sustained serious injuries.

Daily Sun gathered that the policemen while on operation at the Ogudu area of Ojota, a driver of a KIA Rio car rammed into their vehicle near Ogudu Bus Stop.

The RRS men were on duty patrolling along Ogudu-Ala-

pere axis inspecting the Light Up Lagos Project facilities when the accident occurred at about 12:06am.

A witness who conveyed the injured policemen and the driver to Lagos State University Teaching Hospital (LASUTH), Ikeja said, "the RRS vehicle was going slowly on the road because the team was monitoring the Light Up Lagos Project facilities, when the KIA Rio on top speed from Lagos Island towards Alapere rammed into the RRS Ford car with registration number RRS o68 LA."