

8 soldiers feared dead, as militants attack gunboats in Onitsha

From **Tony John**, Port Harcourt

NIGER Delta militant group, Concerned Militant Leaders (CML), has claimed responsibility for yesterday's attack at Onitsha river, Anambra State, where eight soldiers were feared dead.

Spokesman of the group, popularly known as General Ben, revealed this yesterday in the social media.

He also claimed the group executed the attack in Nkpor where three persons were killed and the burning of a police patrol van in Onitsha.

General Ben, in the statement, said the group's action was to show the Federal

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Government and security agencies that they should not underrate the activities of the Niger Delta militants, or limit their operations to the region.

The CML group said the members were working in conjunction with the Niger Delta Avengers (NDA) to cripple the nation's economy.

Give us our relatives, families of missing persons beg transport company

By **Christopher OJI**

FAMILIES of seven persons who allegedly boarded an inter state bus and have not returned home three months ago have begged the transport company to return their missing persons dead or alive.

Ben declared: "My men were responsible for the killing of eight soldiers at Onitsha river. They were killed when my men attacked their military gunboat in Onitsha. We are responsible for the incident in Nkpor near Onitsha.

"It may sound doubtful; but we want to tell Nigerians that we are not limited to Niger Delta region.

five mature persons, a kid excluding the driver of the vehicle burnt to ashes, it is suspicious. Was the vehicle bombed? At least, their should be charred remains of their bodies. Not a skull or bone was found in the vehicle. We just saw ashes.

This is a warning to the Nigerian government that no amount of security threat will deter us. More attacks will still take place.

"We stand by every ultimatum given to any group or company. We will touch the soul of the economy of this nation. We are not inter-

ested in resources but, sovereignty".

General Ben further said it was not their intention to strike yesterday, as it coincided with the anniversary of the Movement for the Actualization of Sovereign State of Biafra (MASSOB).

