

Pipeline bombings not best way to attract attention –Boroh

From **Judex Okoro**, Calabar

SPECIAL Adviser to President Muhammadu Buhari on Niger Delta Affairs and Coordinator, Presidential Amnesty Programme, Brigadier General Paul Boroh (retd), has said bombing of pipelines is not the best way to attract government's attention to the people's plight.

Boroh, who stated this during the graduation of 72 former militants in Calabar, yesterday, said there were other ways to do so, adding that the Federal Government was committed to their re-integration, empowerment.

The 72 former militants were trained in fisheries and aquaculture in the Institute of Oceanography, University of Calabar.

He said the current administration care for the repentant militants who have decided to surrender their arms and embrace peace for the progress of the country.

Boroh said he would commence the process of empowering the graduands with cash and other materials which would help set up their fish farms.

"I am very happy that you have surrendered your arms to embrace peace and to also accept to be trained in fish farming.

"This shows that together we can move the Niger Delta region forward. I wish to appeal to all of you here to convince your colleagues in the creeks to lay down their arms and embrace peace."

Police rescue 6 kidnap victims, kill 2 suspects in Rivers

From **Tony John**, Port Harcourt

RIVERS State Police Command yesterday freed six kidnap victims from their captors at two different locations.

Also, two suspected kidnappers met their Waterloo after engaging operatives of the Anti-Kidnap Unit (AKU) of the police in a gun duel.

The freed victims were Damiete Clinton Amachree, Weldly Udo Abasi, Deacon Sebastian Amenkhienan, Rev. Ogagarue, Ibe Onyebuchi, a staff of MCC Nigeria Limited and Oka Emmanuel.

They were held hostage in a bush in Ubima, in Ikwerre Local Government Area of the state.

Police, in a statement issued yesterday evening, by the command's Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Omoni Nnamdi, said the kidnappers were responsible for the death of two mobile policemen attached to 48 PMF at Omerelu in the same local government area, and made away with their rifles.

Nnamdi said the breakthroughs recorded were in the command's determination to combat violent crimes and fight perpetrators of crimes to a standstill.

"Our intelligence led the police team to their camp where on sighting the police, the hoodlums opened fire, which, consequently, left in its wake, the rescue of their hostages. Two of the kidnappers were killed in the process." Items recovered included two AK 47 rifles with serial numbers 0325836, 3552713 and 80 rounds of live ammunition. Also, operatives of the command's crack team arrested some suspected kidnappers along Elele-Owerri Road in the state. The suspects were said to have been terrorising motorists and passengers along that road. A Sienna car with registration No ERY 679 GR, a Honda Accord car with registration No AHD 485 RX and another Toyota Sienna car with registration No APP 292 DD were recovered from them.

Nnamdi said efforts were still on to arrest fleeing members of the gang.

Niger Delta crisis: Ijaw women protest detention of 10 persons