

Suspected criminals paraded in Umuahia by the Abia State Police Command rec

# Soldiers gun down 3 suspected kidnappers

## • IYC urges FG to stop N'Delta invasion

From **Femi Folaranmi**,  
Yenagoo

**THE** Joint Task Force (JTF) code-named Operation Delta Safe( ODS) troops yesterday shot and killed three suspected kidnappers along the waterways of Bayelsa and Rivers states.

The soldiers also arrested a wanted kidnapper, Peter and recovered arms and ammunition from him.

The operation against the kidnappers was based on credible, intelligence by policemen and soldiers.

"The gang members on sighting the troops opened fire and engaged the operatives in a

shoot-out, hence, three of the hoodlums were fatally wounded while Peter from southern Ijaw was arrested. Weapons recovered are one General Purpose Machine Gun (GPMG) Number 132/095 with chain of bullets, one AK47 rifle Number 0231, two AK47 magazine fully loaded.

"Dead suspects were deposited in the mortuary for autopsy while the one arrested alive has mentioned all gang members at large and where they kept their remaining weapons," JTF said.

Meanwhile, Niger Delta youth ethnic nationalities rose from a meeting yesterday in Yenagoo, Bayelsa State and called on the Federal Govern-

ment to set up its negotiation team to resolve the crisis in the region.

At a Press conference addressed by Udengs Eradiri, the President of Ijaw Youth Council (IYC), also called on the Federal Government to immediately stop the invasion of Niger Delta communities.

While urging the Federal Government to urgently resolve all the legal issues surrounding the Maritime University, they challenged governors of Niger Delta states to do more to resolve the militancy issue in the region.

According to them, the governors must tackle poverty which has assumed a dangerous turn in the region.

## Stowaway's body found on Air Arik plane