

# Army discovers more corpses, skulls in militants' camp

## ...Intensifies manhunt of gang leader

From **Tony John**, Port Harcourt

**SOLDIERS** from 6 Division of the Nigerian Army, in Port Harcourt, Rivers State, have discovered more corpses and skulls from the camp of a former

militant leader, "General" Don Waney, in Aligwu community, Omoku, Ogbia/Egbema/Ndoni Local Government Area of Rivers State. Other items recovered were arms and ammunition, military camouflage, bags of gunpowder,

motorcycles and cash.

The decomposed bodies and skulls were recovered yesterday after the General Officer Commanding (GOC), Major-General Enobong Udoh, led soldiers to comb the "evil forest," which

the notorious suspect used as shrine and graveyard.

This is coming at a time the Army has intensified efforts to nab the former militant leader, who embraced the Rivers State Amnesty programme in October 2016.

On Monday, security operatives had exhumed several skulls, bones and other human parts from the forest behind Waney's camp.

The Army was assisted in the operation by men of the local vigilance group, known as ONELGA security, as well as the Planning and Advisory Committee.

After yesterday's operation, the GOC and his team as well as the ONELGA Caretaker Committee chairman, Barr. Osi Olisa, paid a courtesy call on the Oba of Ogbaland, Eze Nnam Obi, where they held a closed-door meeting for hours.

Spokesman for 6 Division, Col. Aminu Iliyasu, who addressed journalists in Port Harcourt, said the Army would hand over property and other items recovered in the raid to the state government and other agencies for further investigation and prosecution.

Also, Olisa commended the Army for the action against Waney and his group. He expressed confidence that OSPAC has the capacity to tackle insecurity in the local government area.

He said: "What has happened is a welcome development. What you have now is a situation where the Nigerian Army has performed its traditional duty, which is to secure life and property of the people.

"The recoveries made by security operatives are for humanity to appreciate the reality that is with us in our environment. The activities of the group speak for itself. OSPAC is there to secure the council. And there is nobody whatsoever that can withstand the strength of the group, by the grace of God."

### Adamawa, Zar

From **Molly Kileto**, Abuja

## Drama as EFCC declares witness hostile in ex-Gov Suswam's trial

From **Godwin Tsa**, Abuja

A mild drama played out yesterday in the case filed against former governor of Benue State, Dr. Gabriel Suswam, and his Finance Commissioner, Omadachi Oklobia, for the alleged diversion of N3.1 billion, when the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) applied to the Federal High Court to declare one of its witnesses in the case a "hostile witness."

The anti-graft agency made the application on the grounds that the witness, Abubakar Umar, a bureau de change operator, had departed from the extra-judicial statement he made to the commission, while testifying in

court.

Prosecution counsel, Rotimi Jacobs, SAN, informed the court that the witness, who testified as the fourth prosecution witness (PW4), in his statement, stated that he helped convert N3.111 billion to dollars between August and October 2014, and took the dollar equivalent of \$15.8 million to the governor's house in Maitama, Abuja.

However, during his testimony in court, Umar recanted, as he told the court that the money was taken to Benue State Government House and handed over to government officials.

While testifying before the court on May 5, 2016, the witness, who spoke

through a Hausa interpreter, told the court that Suswam requested for the account number of his company, Fanffash Resources, through which he wired funds from the Benue State treasury on six separate occasions.

He told the court that though he started buying and selling currency since 1990, he opened his own company in 2014, with Suswam as one of his major clients.

"I know the first defendant. In 2014, he brought so much business to me involving the change of money. In August 2014, I was in my office when I was called by the former governor. He asked me to meet him in his house at Maitama in Abuja.

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