

Vampire planning to kill ...kidnap dies in shootout ...kill



Vampire's gang members

Steve Uzoечи and Emmanuel Masha

Reign of the notorious kidnap kingpin, Henry Chibueze, popularly known as Vampire, yesterday came to sudden end during a shootout with members of the Inspector General of Police (IG) Special Forces led by the Intelligence Response Team (IRT).

The police also arrested five members of Vampire's gang while a cache of arms and ammunition was recovered in the predawn raid.

Those arrested are Obinna Elah (26), Arinze Abecheta (24), Chukwuebuka Ikeazota (23), Samuel Ugochukwu (24) and Clifford Aheana.

Vampire, a vicious kidnapper and armed robber, was tracked down and killed by the Special Forces in a forest at Omu Awa community in Ikwerre Local Government Area of Rivers State.

The hoodlum was gunned down about 1a.m.

The state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), DSP Nnamdi Omoni, confirmed Vampire's killing in a text message to our correspondent.

Impeccable police sources told New Telegraph that intelligence device deployed during the operations revealed that Vampire had resolved that someday soon the long arm of the law would catch up with him.

He, however, assured his colleagues that it would be at a huge cost to the society.

include the Concorde Hotel, Owerri.

He had boasted that he would execute his plans as soon as he returned from his planned trip to India.

After his criminal associates attacked the Owerri High Court on January 27 and rescued Vampire, the office of the IG, unknown to him, had been hot on his heels and had deployed its best men with modern intelligence gathering devices.

One of the operatives of the IG's squad, who was narrating the rigours of nailing Vampire to his colleagues during the parade of the suspects, said "Vampire was slippery and devilish. You will never find him sleeping inside the house. He would always sleep outdoors and he will spring awake and alert on the slightest noise, even a distant ringing of the phone.

"The squad had tracked him to Ehime Mbano, he swiftly moved to Aba, we followed him to Aba but the environment was not too conducive as there were children playing all over the neighbourhood. He didn't immediately see us but he sensed that he was being trailed, he escaped but his brother took bullets in his arm.

"We came with the best men for the job so we intensified our search and tracked him to a forest at Omu Awa in Ikwerre Local Government Area, laid our ambush but he was alert. He defiantly engaged our men in a gun battle where he was gunned down. That deflated his men, some of who surrendered and were arrested."

In a statement after parading the