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Pirates kill four naval ratings in Ondo community

January 14, 2020 Correspondents



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Rates on 14 Jan 2020

- Rescued two foreigners

Adewale Momoh

Akure

S

ea pirates killed four naval ratings over the weekend during a clash at Gagira, a suburb of Awoye coastal community in Ilaje Local Government Area of Ondo State.

The situation created tension among residents of the community when naval officers stormed the area in search of the suspected pirates as well as four military rifles of the deceased ratings.

Clash ensued between the naval and the kidnap of three foreigners by the bandits.



The rescued foreigners

With the three foreigners rescued, one of the pirates was said to have been apprehended during the gun battle.

The Commanding Officer, Forward Operating Base in Igbokoda, headquarters of Ilaje Local Government Area, Commodore Danjuma Ndanusa, disclosed that a curfew had been imposed on Gbagira, Awoye in Ilaje Local Government Area over the development.

Ndanusa also directed the community leaders to ensure that the four military rifles and seven magazines stolen during the gun duel at Gbagira village were produced.

The Commanding Officer said that the four military rifles and seven magazines in the hands of the pirates were very dangerous to the people of the community.

The naval boss added that the arrested pirates said the rifles were in the community.

He said: “We intimidated them on what is at stake. It is like sleeping on a time bomb. I told all the Baales (village heads) to get all their youths and speak with them.

“That was why we did a total search and we found four telephones and one walkie-talkie belonging to the foreigners. I made this known to the four Baales from the community

“We also made a search on the boat they came with from Bayelsa State; we were able to recover empty magazines from guns on the floor of their boat. We place a curfew on the four communities and on the activities on the waterway by putting pressure on them to produce the arms because it is a treat to the innocent people in the community.”

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