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3 Kidnappers, Medical Student Killed

From Okon Bassey in Uyo, 07.08.2010

Three kidnappers met their Waterloo yesterday in Akwa Ibom State just as a medical student from the University of Uyo (UNIUYO) was killed by unknown gunmen in Uyo, the State capital.

The kidnappers were killed by the police in the state during a raid on their hideout to free Senator Effiong Bob's eldest brother, Mr. Akpan Timothy Akpan.

Briefing newsmen in his office yesterday, State Commissioner of Police, Mr. Walter J. Rugbere, said the Senator's brother was freed in a midnight operation when the police invaded the kidnappers' camp at Mminya Ntak village in Mkpata Enin Local Government Area of the state.

He said in the encounter in which the kidnappers were taken unawares, three of them were gunned down on the spot while some escaped into the bush. He described the development as a great breakthrough in the fight against kidnapping in the state.

"During the operation, three of the suspects met their Waterloo during a gun battle with the operatives. Four AK 47 rifles with 145 rounds of live ammunition, one black Mercedes Benz 190 with registration number AG 649 KET, one Q-Link motorcycle, some charms and two masks were recovered from the suspects," he said.

The Commissioner said the gang was believed to be the brain behind series of kidnappings in the state and disclosed that four other kidnappers had been arrested in operations in some parts of the state.

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