

JTF killings: Two more bodies recovered

By Emma Amaize

WARRI — TWO more corpses of members of the Ijaw delegation that were shot dead in the August 20 gunfight with men of the Joint Task Force (JTF) in the Niger-Delta were found floating on the River on Sunday.

Officials of the Bayelsa State government and some workers of the Shell Petroleum Development Company (SPDC) went out, yesterday, to inspect the corpses but as at 3.50 pm, when

Vanguard contacted the External Relations Manager (Western Division), SPDC, Mr. Harri-man Oyoyo, he said the people that went for the inspection were not back.

Nine days after the gun battle, he said the company had no information on the fate of its community liaison officer, Comrade Nelson Ujeya whose rescue mission resulted in the unfortunate massacre. Asked whether Ujeya's corpse was among the two corpses that were just recovered, he said: "I

told you that the people that went for the inspection are not back yet and you see, a member of the family has to identify him before anybody can make a categorical statement".

Investigation by *Vanguard*, however, showed that some villagers reported, last Friday, that they buried two corpses and some Ijaw chieftains who were informed about the development, directed that the corpses be exhumed, as nobody was authorized to bury any corpse.