

Vanguard (Lagos)

## NEWS

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Port Harcourt

THE Joint Task Force (JTF) in Rivers State has said that it has discovered where militants take their hostages to on the high sea around Ogogboro community.

Major Sagir Musa who told the Vanguard, yesterday, on phone that the Brigade Commander, 2 Amphibious Brigade, Brigadier General Sarikiyaki Bello went to the spot yesterday, when he visited Ogogboro community.

He said it is about forty five minutes drive into the river bounding Ogogbolo community.

According to him, the Brigade Commander went in a small boat. He was accompanied on the trip by other soldiers and locals who also came in their boats. He said the locals were so excited leading the Commander and the soldiers to the place.

Painting a picture of what the spot looks like, he said the militants erected makeshift structure with mud and raffia palms. The army PRO said he suspected that was where they took the expatriate to before drowning him at the river.

It would be recalled that the JTF recovered the corpse of an expatriate floating on Ogogboro river Saturday. Because of its decomposed state it was difficult identifying its nationality. According to the state Police Commissioner, Mr. Felix Ogbaudu, the security would rely largely on relatives or friends of the deceased that might come forward with necessary information that may help resolve the riddle created by the decomposition. Meanwhile, he said the corpse had been deposited at a morgue.

In a related development soldiers on the streets of Port Harcourt now relate in friendly terms with civilians. Unlike the past when they were frog jumping motorists and pedestrians at the slightest provocation this time according to most residents they are friendly.

It would be recalled that the Chief of Army Staff, Lieutenant General Luka Yusuf was in the state last week for a meeting of service chiefs at the end of which he cautioned the soldiers against being hostile to civilians. He had told them not to molest or harass the people unnecessarily so that they could get their support to achieve success in the crusade against miscreants and brigands in the state.