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Nigeria: Sea Pirates Kill Two Naval

Vanguard (Lagos)**12 February 2008**

Posted to the web 12 February 2008

George Onah and Jimitota Onoyume
Port Harcourt

A CREWMAN of a security vessel, MV Patience, belonging to Total Oil Nigeria Limited may have drowned when six gunmen attacked the ship in the early hours of yesterday, at Buoy 35 along the Bonny Channel, capturing one military rifle in the shootout

Vanguard learnt that the man was thrown overboard by the pirates, who were allegedly dressed in military fatigue (camouflage) and cruising in a speedboat of high horsepower. The attack was said to have taken the sailors of MV Patience completely unawares.

As soon as they got to the ship, they opened fire immediately and fired sporadically for a while, causing commotion amongst crew members, after which the men swiftly jumped on board the ship and were still firing as they moved in, an eyewitness said.

Apparently, stunned by the invasion, the security man on board was said to have simply stood and could not respond to the shooting of the men who overwhelmed him numerically. The pirates then walked up to him, collected his rifle and pushed him into the ocean.

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