

Towards A Better Life for the People 9:59 AM, Monday, March 30th, 2009

Nigerian Bankers Award Gallery | Advertise With Us



Ship / Vessel Demolition	Fisher Maritime
World's Largest Demo Ship Buyers Cash Buyers -Vessels for Demolition	Expert Casualty Analysis Boating / Ships / Inland / Offshore

Home	News	Politics	Business	Sports	Entertainment	Technology	Editorial	Columns	Viewpoints	Financial Vanguard
------	------	----------	----------	--------	---------------	------------	-----------	---------	------------	--------------------

Home

Over 8 ship captains lost to piracy - Merchant Navy boss

Written by Godfrey Bivbere & Ifeyinwa Obi
Friday, 27 March 2009

THE President of the Merchant Navy Officers Association of Nigeria (MNOAN), Captain Thomas Kemewerigha said that they have lost over eight of their members in recent time to piracy attacks, despite repeated assurances from the Nigerian Navy to make the country's waters free from the activities of sea pirates.



ship

The MNOAN boss said that the sea robbers have continued to molestation their members incessantly without any help in sight from the part of government.

Kemewerigha said that the Nigeria Navy would have to be adequately equip in order for them to take the battle to the door steps of the pirates.

He said after the attack on about four vessels this year, fish trawler operators decided to commence harvesting outside Nigerian waters but the ships were also attacked on their way back into the country.

He noted that the attack on F.T Star1 and the killing of the ship's Captain Plus Itumogbe, after several of such attacks in the last couple of weeks, has forced trawler operators in the country to move their operations to neighboring countries.

According to him, "There was piracy conference in Abuja, so many things were said at the end of the day nothing came out. Just last week, we had an attack on fishing Trawler, "Star 1" trawler belonging to one of the vessels owners in this country, a captain was killed, he is still in the mortuary, a lot of crew were equally injured.

I think government really has to come out and do something tangible to curb this because a lot of more serious things are bound to equally happen after this. If the Navy could come out to tell the whole world that they cannot match up with the pirates because of platform, it means the custodians of the territorial waters have given up hope".

In his words "here is an industry that is not only employing Nigerians but it is equally earning foreign exchange for this great nation, yet, the cost of sailing a vessel for 45 days is very high because of the high price of diesel. If the government wants to kill the industry, let them kill it and increase the unemployment rate. To sail a vessel for 45 days would cost you about N9million.

What would you get from the sea that you would sell and get your money back, you are paying the crew, you are feeding them, you are buying water. At the end of the day pirates will attack you at sea, loot all you cargo and your electronics and kill your crew".

Voice of America which also reported the recent increase in piracy attack on Nigerian waters said that the pirates attacked at night, with their speedboat roaring out of the waves firing their AK_47s. The crew realized they were under attack when their trawler was peppered with a hail of bullets.

Some of the crew on board the fishing trawlers that have previously been attacked narrated their ordeal
"They got us at about 1.30 a.m., they came on board, they came with a speed boat, nine of them all armed. They came looking for money, they ate our food and looted the ship of anything of value, including the captain's shoes."



Only registered users can write comments.

EMAIL



Get Updates via Email

Enter your Email

Subscribe me!

Preview | Powered by
FeedBlitz

Username

Password

☐ Remember me

Login

Lost Password?

No account yet? Register

Advertisement

www.FishFarmersMeetBuyers.com
Get BIG Catfish buyers; Connect
Broodstock, Table-size, Fingerlings &
Juvenile Producers; Get Catfish
Manual, Fish Consultants, Fish
Feed/Tools & Machine Dealers, Join
Farmer's forum online to share
experiences/ask questions etc

FxPro.com - Trade Forex Like a Pro

Flexible leverage up to
1:500
Low spreads from 1.8 pips
www.FxPro.com

INTERESTED IN CATFISH FARMING?

Avoid costly mistakes & huge losses

[CLICK HERE](#)

To buy Catfish Manual titled
"The A-Z Of Catfish Farming
With Low Start-up Funds"

Reader-friendly;
Comprehensive;
Pictorial

Please login or register.

 [Add as favourites](#) (13) |  [Quote this article on your site](#) | Views: 211



Be the first to comment on this article



[\[Back \]](#)

© 2009 Vanguard Media Limited
Comments made by visitors to this site do not reflect the opinion of Vanguard.
Designed & Managed by 