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Sea bandits kill one, maim 10 in Delta

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By Emma Amaize

WARRI – GUNMEN, suspected to be sea bandits, have killed a 30-year-old boat driver, Godknows Wuruke, and injured over 10 persons in Delta State.

Vanguard was informed that the bandits ambushed two passenger boats, moving from Warri to Aghoro community in Bayelsa State at **River Forcados tributary, behind Burutu, headquarters of Burutu Local Government Area, Delta State** and robbed the passengers.

Wuruke left Warri waterside at about 5.20 p.m and was allegedly shot dead by the gunmen because he tried to prevent them from robbing his passengers.

Chairman of the Aghoro waterside boat drivers, Mr. Cletus Itari, who confirmed the incident to *Vanguard* on phone, Monday, called on security agents to mount surveillance on the waterways in Burutu area, as it was obtainable in Warri axis to ensure the safety of the people.

He also urged the chairman of Burutu Local Government, Mr. Denne Bukuman “to arrange for community vigilance group to patrol the area and stop the excesses of the sea pirates, who are operating without restraint in the area.”

National president of the Ijaw People Development Initiative, IPDI, Comrade Austin Ozobo, who lamented the death of the boat driver said, “The increase of piracy attacks in the area was that irate youths, who were formerly members of the local refinery operation were faced with military onslaught.”

“Except drastic steps are taken to create jobs for the affected operators, things will be too bad for residents and passengers on the waterways,” he said.

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