# Edo police kill 2, arrest 6 kidnappers

**BY SIMON EBEGBULEM**

BENIN CITY—MEN of the Edo State Police command said in Benin City, yesterday, that two kidnap gang members were killed during exchange of gun fire.

Six of the suspects were also arrested while a cache of arms including three pump action guns were recovered from them.

The incident was said to have occurred around Ugbowo area after a 70-year-old man who was jogging was abducted by the suspects.

The victim was forced into the trunk of the abductors' car and driven to their hideout before the police went after them.

The Edo State Police Commissioner, Foluso Adebanjo, who confirmed the incident to *Vanguard*, said it occurred at about 6 a.m. and that his men went to rescue the man following a tip-off.

According to the CP, "Early today (yesterday) at about 6a.m, hoodlums came with Audi vehicle and abducted this 70-year-old man around Ugbowo. They put him in the trunk of the car and drove off.

"Information got to me, so I quickly directed our anti kidnapping team to carry out a raid in that area. Our vehicle was parked far away from the hide out and our men trekked to the scene.

"One of them must have observed that it could be policemen and shouted. So they started firing at us and we responded. Two of them were shot dead while six were arrested. None of our men sustained any injury and we thank God for that.

"We observed that the old man was tortured when they were forcing him to inform them where to get ransom from. Like I said earlier, we will continue to go after them."

**Scene of the crash**

death of the woman. According to reports, her corpse and the 18 injured passengers were rushed to a nearby hospital.

The accident attracted sympathizers who made efforts to bring out the accident victims from the bus wreckage as well as provide alternative transportation for them.

It was also learnt that the vehicle which took off at the popular Hosanna park along Afikpo road, Abakaliki was bound for Arochukwu in Abia State before