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Woman dies in kidnappers' custody, another escapes

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By Egufe Yafugborhi

WARRI—A mother of three and staff of Delta State-owned *The Pointer* newspaper, Mrs Patricia Amitaye, has been reported dead. She was reportedly kidnapped, Wednesday, by five gunmen in the Toyota Hilux truck she was being driven in on a journey from Eku to Warri.

Her lifeless body was later found in the bush by a search party after the driver of the truck alerted her husband and family members.

A source said: "Patricia has been sick, but she was getting better before this unfortunate incident. I am sure that her blood pressure rose from the shock and assault by the kidnappers, who probably abandoned her when they noticed she was in pains."

In a related development, Mrs. Caro Botosan, yesterday, escaped from the den of kidnappers in a forest in Urhiephron, Ughelli South, where they had held her for nine days.

She was said to have escaped at about 7am, yesterday, and found her way to Urhiephron/Orhughworhum Junction, where she put a call across to her husband through the phone of a woman she met.

One of her abductors had been arrested, and had led a police team to the home of their leader, simply identified as "Biggy," at Agbarho community, Ughelli North, where arrests were made and investigation was in progress when the victim escaped, yesterday.

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