

News

Police kill 4 suspected kidnappers, rescue 4 hostages in Rivers

By Davies Iheamnochor & Mercy Oguji

PORT HARCOURT—OPERATIVES of Rivers State Police Command, have said that they smashed a criminal hideout on Ubima and Omerelu communities in Ikwerre Local Government Area of the state.

The police said during the raid, the criminals at Ubima had engaged its men in shoot out and four of the kidnappers were killed in the process.

In a statement, yesterday, the Public Relations Officer of the Command, Nnamdi Omoni disclosed that the Anti-Kidnapping Unit of the Command had raided some criminal havens in Ubima and Omerelu on Tuesday.

Omoni said that the security operatives had invaded and destroyed different kidnappers' dens in the area and had rescued four hostages.

Describing the operation as a huge success for the police, Omoni noted that several kidnap victims were rescued.

Omoni who gave the name of

some of the suspects arrested as Richard Chukwu, Goodluck Richard, Ikechukwu Richard alias Military man, Omereji James alias Tompolo, Stephen Omereji, said that the gang was responsible for terrorising travelers on the highway.

He also disclosed that

several weapons and ammunitions were recovered from the criminals during the operation.

He added that "The victims rescued include Okwananaso Anya Johnson, Christian Azuzu, Ejezie Chinedu, Prophetess Ngozi, adding that

Daniel have been debriefed and have since reunited with their families."

He, however, urged criminals to turn a good leaf or leave the state, even as he enjoined the people of the state to rekindle their trust in the police.



VISIT: From left: Customer Service Manager, Intercontinental Distillers Ltd, Toyin Adebunmi; Assistant Brand Manager, Eagle Schnapps, Gbemileke Lawal; Head, Marketing, Mobolaji Alalade; Alafin of Oyo, Oba Lamidi Adeyemi III; Sales Operations Manager, West II, Kunle Seriki; Retail Trade Manager, Taiwo Ahmed, when the IDL team visited the Oyo monarch, during the Oranyan festival in Oyo, Oyo State, yesterday.

NUPENG demands release of 14 kidnapped oil workers

By Genevieve Aningo

PORT HARCOURT—NIGERIA Union of Petroleum and Natural Gas Workers, NUPENG, yesterday, condemned and demanded the immediate and unconditional release of 14 oil workers recently kidnapped while returning from Egbe-Ohaji field, to Port Harcourt, Rivers State, by kidnappers.

The union in a statement by its President, Mr. Igwe Achese, expressed shock at kidnap of the 14 workers of Nestoil and called on the security agencies to spread their dragnet to rescue them unhurt.

NUPENG insisted that the kidnap was one, too many as all hands must be on deck to protect the lives of oil workers especially those working at installations.

The statement said: "We are therefore, worried about the attack which has made oil workers an endangered specie. We call on the Federal Government to quickly ensure