

The military operatives through a tip off had last Sunday arrested four of the suspects including a female who in an attempt to take the operatives to their hideout at Akpakakpa near Abigborodo community, Warri North council area of the state, led the team into an ambush leading to a shootout between the soldiers and the hoodlums.

“On getting to the creek, the troops were ambushed by a gang of gunmen leading to an exchange of gunfire with six of the hoodlums killed while an army personnel sustained gunshot wound and is receiving medical attention at an undisclosed hospital,” a source attached to the Department of Security Service, DSS told Saturday Vanguard yesterday.

Speaking further, the source who spoke on condition of anonymity, said: “Two of the suspects earlier arrested, had confessed to being members of a militant gang that abducted a female victim at Amukpe, Sapele and killed two soldiers during that incident.

“They also admitted being the brain behind the abduction of some staff of an oil company along the Benin River as well as the vandalization of oil and gas facilities in the area.

“Security operatives within and around Sapele are also on the manhunt for other members of the gang who escaped with gunshot wounds during the shootout.”