

Gunmen kill policeman, 4 others in Bayelsa ①

By Samuel Oyadongha

YENAGOA— A policeman and four others were reportedly ambushed and killed, weekend, by gunmen along Idema-Otuabagi road in Ogbia Local Government Area of Bayelsa State.

Three others including a police inspector, who escaped death by the whiskers, are

said to be responding to treatment from bullet injuries they sustained.

The incident, it was gathered, occurred about 7.45 am on Saturday along the usually isolated road.

According to sources, the deceased policeman identified as Asuo Osuani and the four civilians alongside others were returning from the burial of their colleague at Imago

Kugbo, Rivers State, a boundary town with Bayelsa when they came under attack.

Spokesman of the Bayelsa Police Command, SP Asinim Butswat, who confirmed the development, said the police have launched a manhunt for the perpetrators of the heinous act.

He said: "On May 14, 2022, about 0745 hours, gunmen

ambushed policemen serving at Rivers Command, at Idema-Otuabagi Road, Ogbia Local Government Area, Bayelsa State, while returning from the burial of a colleague, late ASP Gilbert Sampson, at Imago Kugbo, Rivers State.

"The suspected gunmen opened fire at the vehicle conveying the police officers and other civilians.

"In the process, PC Asuo Osuani and Special Constabulary Odeoye Sampson, Mr Terry Lucky, Jennifer Adejo and Asueroh Tobins were fatally shot and later died.

"Inspector Urere Edwin, Rejoice Sampson and Reward Sampson sustained bullet injuries and are responding to treatment.

"The Commissioner of Police Bayelsa State Command, Mr Ben Nebolisa Okolo, has ordered a manhunt for the gunmen. An investigation is ongoing."

Train attack: Bandits release pregnant woman on compassionate ground

ONE of the pregnant women among those abducted by the bandits that attacked a Kaduna-bound train in March has been released on compassionate ground.

The other pregnant woman gave birth to a child in captivity last month.

The bandits had on March 28 attacked the train around the Katari and Rijana axis of Kaduna. They killed at least nine persons, wounded several others and abducted several others.

They later released the Managing Director of the Bank of Agriculture,

Alwan Hassan, after the payment of a ransom. The bandits, however, said he was released on compassionate grounds too.

In a two-minute video footage, the released pregnant passenger said the bandits treated them with respect in captivity. She said they were provided with food and medication.

The freed passenger also confirmed that the other pregnant woman gave birth to a child.

"Peace be on to you all. I'm among the Kaduna train passengers abducted

by bandits on March 28. They took us into the bush without stating their reasons but we thank God because they didn't maltreat us and they fed us well.

"We conducted our fasting and if you're sick they give you medication.

"They look at our conditions, especially like me whose continued staying there may pose danger to our health, especially considering that my pregnancy has reached an advanced stage, that's why they decided to release me on compassionate ground."

Man released