

stopped for questioning.

Police neutralise suspected killer of Catholic priest, 2 robbery suspects in Edo

BENIN CITY—One of the suspected kidnappers of a Catholic priest of St Michael Catholic Church, Ikhagbigbo, Etsako West Local Government Area of Edo, has been killed by police operatives.

The suspect was reportedly killed by police in Edo at the Jattu area of Etsako West local government area of the state.

The state Police spokesperson, ASP Jennifer Iwegbu, who stated this, yesterday, in Benin, said the abductors killed the priest as well as a hunter on Sunday.

She stated that a combined team of Police operatives and those of a vigilance group had earlier attempted to rescue the priest who was taken into the forest.

"The Police personnel, who went on the trail of the kidnappers decimated one of them, while other gang members escaped with gunshot injuries," she added.

Iwegbu assured that the fleeing

abductors would be arrested and made to face the law.

In a related development, two suspected armed robbers were killed, Sunday, by police operatives in Benin City, who also recovered weapons.

Iwegbu said the suspects were part of a gang of armed robbers that attacked Rubec Oil and Gas Station located off Murtala Muhammed Way in Benin, in the early hours of Sunday.

She said: "On the receipt of the information, the Commander, Police Crack Team, immediately mobilised a team of police operatives and vigilantes to the scene.

"The armed robbers were later successfully trailed to a different location where they were carrying out another operation.

"On sighting the team of security operatives, the armed robbers opened fire on them which led to a gun battle.



From left, *Brigade Commander, 4 Brigade, Nigerian Army, Brig.-Gen. Sani Abdullahi; Bishop of Auchi Catholic Diocese, Most Rev. Gabriel Dunia, Edo State Acting Governor, Philip Shaibu, and Edo State Commissioner of Police, Abutu Yaro, during a visit to the Catholic Bishop, in Jattu, Etsako West Local Government Area, over the killing of Catholic priest of St Michael Catholic Church, Ikhagbigbo, yesterday.*