

vandal to newsmen in Calabar, yesterday. PHOTO: NAIN.

Police kill 2 suspected kidnappers, rescue victims in Delta

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WARRI— THE Delta State Police Command said it has neutralised two suspected kidnappers, recovered arms and ammunition and rescued victims after fierce shoot-out as others flee.

In a statement, yesterday, Delta Police imagermaker, Bright Edeke, confirmed the incident, saying: "As part of strategies emplaced by the command to check the activities of kidnappers and armed robbers in Warri, Ughelli and other parts of the state

and nip it in the bud, the state Commissioner of Police, Wale Abass, directed DPOs and tactical commanders to step up their game and be ahead of these criminals in order to get them flushed out of the state.

"Consequently, on 31/5/2023, about 0120hrs, Aliyu Shaba led operatives from Ovwian Aladja division and embarked on a confidence building proactive patrol along DSC/Effurun Road. During the patrol, the DPO received a distress call that a man and his wife (name withheld) were kidnapped and their Lexus SUV was taken also.

"The DPO swiftly trailed the escape route

of the suspected kidnappers and eventually intercepted the vehicle on Warri-Sapele Road by Aziza junction.

"On sighting the police, the suspects opened fire on the team in a bid to escape and the police professionally responded, neutralising two of the suspects in the process, while the other suspects abandoned the kidnapped couples in the vehicle and escaped.

"The victims were rescued unhurt. One AK-47 rifle with breach number 16869, 46 rounds of 7.62 live ammunition, one pump action gun and 13 live cartridges were recovered. Manhunt for the fleeing suspects is ongoing.