

Gunmen abduct ex-Reps member, kill Police escort in Nasarawa

● Kidnap 8-yr-old boy, 4 others, demand N15m ransom in Kogi ● Murder 67-yr-old cleric in Lagos

By Boluwaji Obahopo & Abel Daniel

LAFIA—A former member of the House of Representative, Dr. Joseph Kigbu, was reportedly abducted yesterday, on his way to Jos.

This came as gunmen adopted five persons at two communities within Western senatorial district of Kogi State.

1 In a related development, a pastor with Royal Assembly Sanctuary, Lagos, Apostle Ranti Ige-Daniel, has been killed by his abductors.

2 On the abduction of former reps member, the bandits in a gun battle reportedly shot the Police escort attached to Joseph Kigbu while trying to resist the kidnappers.

It was gathered that when his vehicle was stopped along side other motorists, gunshots were fired sporadically by the bandits, leaving the Police orderly dead.

The kidnap took place about 6:00pm between Nunlui, Akwanga Local government, Nasarawa State and Gwantu, Sanga local government, Kaduna State.

Residents of the villages around the spot said several criminal activities have taken place in that area in recent time.

Efforts to get the state police command police public relations officer's reaction were not successful at press time.

Gunmen kidnap 8-yr-old boy, 4 others, demand N15m ransom in Kogi

Aside the five persons kidnapped in the two communities of Kabba/Bumu council area, four others were also reported to have been abducted in Isanlu, headquarters of Yagba East LGA of the state.

Vanguard gathered that two brothers, Chief Dare Olowosegun Obafayo and Mr Bareke Job, were abducted on Monday, November 28, 2024 in broad day light.

Job, a former chairman of Rewire technicians' Association in Kabba-Bumu and his brother were said to have been adopted on their family and located in Ajayu in Kakun community, a suburb of Kabba, headquarters of the council area.

Also, Joshua Aiyegboka, Miss Aiyegboka and eight-year-old Iorunmowaju Victory were kidnapped same day opposite the condary school in Odo-Ape at about 11:40pm.

The kidnappers have since contacted their families for ransom

to be paid before they are released.

Job's brother, Jerome Bareke, who spoke on behalf of the family appealed to the state government and security agencies to help rescue their family members, who have been in the kidnappers' den for almost a week.

Jerome said the abductors initially demanded N15 million ransom but have reduced it to N10 million. Also, the kidnappers are demanding N50 million for the three victims abducted in Odo-Ape.

...Murder 67-yr-

Ondo Amotekun arrests security guard who staged his kidnap

By Dayo Johnson

AKURE—A security guard at a rubber plantation in Edo State, Sule Gende, has been arrested by the Ondo State security outfit, codenamed, Amotekun for organising his abduction and demanding N50m ransom from his employer.

Parading 22 suspected criminals in Akure, the state capital, the state commander of Amotekun, Chief Adetunji Adeleye, said two other suspects were arrested in connection with the crime.

Adeleye said the security guard, who organised his own abduction, was picked up at his duty post at the rubber plantation in Edo State and was taken to a hideout in the Southern senatorial district of Ondo State.

Businessman urges court to stop illegal eviction

By Atolagbe Kaosarah

A businessman, Elvis Okpaleke, has asked a Lagos High Court sitting in Eti-Osa area of the state to restrain a property owner, Dr. Edokpolo Austin, from evicting his company from its business premises at 15a, Admiralty Way, Lekki Phase 1, Lagos.

Joined in the suit as co-defendants are Cynthia Austin, Austin Family Holding Ltd, Uplift Medical Nigeria Ltd, Cignet Properties Ltd, Akorede Adeyinka and Stallion Technology Ltd.

Okpaleke trading under the business name of BLD Restaurant, averred that there is a deliberate attempt by the defendants to illegally evict his business from its present location despite the significant improvement he had made on the property in furtherance of his restaurant business.

old cleric in Lagos

In a related development, a pastor with Royal Assembly Sanctuary, Lagos, Apostle Ranti Ige-Daniel, has been killed by his abductors.

This was revealed by another cleric, Rev. Francis Kofoworola Iselowo of Faith Pavilion Inc, Arlington Texas, USA, on his Facebook wall @Rev.Dr. FrancisKFIselowo.

He said: "Apostle Daniel, based in Lagos was taken away by the wicked ones last Thursday, November 28, 2024 between Idofin and Makutu road near Isanlu, Kogi State, Nigeria."

"Your life was snatched in a

dastardly manner with three people still under the captivity of the kidnappers. You were going for a burial in Isanlu but not knowing that it will be your last day on earth.

"While writing this I heard that the kidnappers were asking for N10 million per person before they can be released.

"You were a true son of Mopa. A kingdom of Christ builder. Going through your page on Facebook I could see where you were warning everyone that Jesus could come at anytime hence, we should all be prepared to face eternity. You have fought a good fight of faith like Apostle Paul. Your immediate family will miss you. Your church in Lagos will miss you. Mopa city will miss you. The body of Christ at large will miss you. Nigeria and the world will miss you."

He noted: "Rather than waste time on their prosecution in Ondo State and in the spirit of collaboration, we would release these two suspects to the office of the Director of State Services, DSS, of Edo State for them to conclude and complete the trial of those that were apprehended."

According to him, the security guard was lodged in an apartment owned by a 19-year-old friend, who is a security guard, for days before he was arrested by the security personnel.

The 19 year old suspect, James Lisbon, said he agreed to accommodate him because he was informed that he would be travelling to Benue State soon. Lisbon said that his friend augmented the visitor's feeding by giving him

N10,000 twice.

Also in an interview, an official of the company where the kidnap victim worked, said it was shown on CCTV that the night guard was kidnapped by gunmen.

He added that abductors later opened a line of communication with the company and demanded N50 million for his release. According to him, they later agreed to accept N35 million.

"They eventually said they could not get anything less than N15 million. The official added that the company informed the Department of State Security Services (DSS).

"But when there was no trace of the kidnappers, the company contacted Amotekun Corps in Ondo State and this paid off as the two suspects were tracked to their hideout."

He claimed that without prior notice or being offered the right to buy the said property, the defendants has already taken steps such as disconnecting essential utilities on the property which interferes with his right to peaceful possession.

In an Interlocutory Injunction filed

along the suit, Okpaleke is asking the court to, among other prayers, grant an order of interlocutory injunction restraining the 1st to 7th defendants from interfering with his lawful possession of the business premises pending the full determination of the suit.



ABUJA CARNIVAL: From left: Regional Marketing Manager, Inda Ayobami; CEO, Abuja International Carnival, Kehinde Adegbite at Noodles Nigeria, Oluwaponmle Alabi at the opening ceremony of A