

Four suspected kidnappers shot dead in gun battle with police in Delta



By Ochuko Akuopha

ASABA—FOUR suspected kidnappers have been shot dead in a gun battle with operatives of the Delta State Police Command.

Police Public Relations Officer of the state command, Mr Bright Edafe, confirmed this in a statement, yesterday, saying one AK-47 rifle with one magazine was recovered.

He said operatives of the CP Special Assignment team had earlier arrested one suspect when he was seeking to buy AK-47 rifle ammunition on March 9, 2025, about 11.30p.m.

The statement disclosed that “the suspect during interrogation revealed the location where the rifle was hidden. The operatives stormed the bush along the railway line in Agbarho where the gang members upon sighting the Police engaged the team in a fierce gun duel, during which four suspected kidnappers sustained gunshot injuries. One AK-47 rifle with one magazine was recovered.

“The injured suspects were taken to the General Hospital, Ughelli for treatment but were later confirmed dead by the doctor.

“Corpses have been deposited at the hospital morgue while the effort to trail and arrest the fleeing hoodlums is ongoing.”

Meanwhile, Edafe in the statement also disclosed that operatives of the command have arrested one suspected kidnapper at a bush in Ibasa community, Oshimili North Local Government Area of the state.

He said: “On 12/3/2025, about 11p.m., an indigene of Ibasa (name withheld) reported at Ibasa Police station that his friend’s wife was kidnapped on 7/3/2025 and a ransom was paid and that he was the person who delivered the ransom and other food items to the kidnappers.

“Acting on useful information provided by the said man the DPO Ibasa Police Station swiftly mobilised the patrol team of Ibasa division alongside vigilantes and stormed the bush where the suspect Abdulahi Isah was arrested. The suspect is in custody and the investigation is ongoing.”