

CEHRD'S investigation revealed that on Thursday, August 15, 2007, at about 4.00pm, soldiers acting under the aegis of the **Joint Task Force (JTF)** raided the marine base area and arrested some people who have no link with the warring criminal gangs. Augustine Obiekwe is one of such innocent persons in your cell. We insist that the rampaging gangs owe their origin and funding to the Nigerian state and the government knows how to handle it, and not by arresting and subjecting innocent and law abiding people to undue stress.

We also gathered that Obiekwe currently is held in solitary confinement denied access to his wife, relatives and friends.

CEHRD urges you to release the young man unconditionally. Because we found him innocent of any allegation. On that fateful day, the soldiers forced him from his shop (Austine Momene Interbiz Nigeria, No. 45, Marine Base, Port Harcourt) where he sells building materials at marine base in Port Harcourt, Rivers state, and took him into illegal detention.

Again, we call for his immediate and unconditional release and others who are illegally detained.



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