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NEWS

Gunmen Kill Policeman At Benue Checkpoint

A Nigerian Police Officer

By Hope Abah

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A policeman attached to the Operation Zenda Joint Task Force (JTF) in Benue State has been shot dead by gunmen at a checkpoint along the Otukpo–Ohimini Road.

The incident, which occurred around 12.04am on Thursday claimed the life of Inspector Akpan Ogbole of the Nigeria Police Force while Abechi Oche of the Nigeria Forest and Hunters Services, also shot, survived the ordeal.

Witnesses said the security operatives came under heavy gunfire from the assailants during a fierce exchange of gunfire.

The two victims were rushed to the Otukpo General Hospital for treatment but the police man, Ogbole, was later confirmed dead.

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It was learnt from Oche's family that he is recuperating, while the body of the police man has been deposited at the hospital mortuary.

Our correspondent further gathered that the attackers escaped with an AK-47 rifle belonging to the police and a pump-action gun assigned to the Forest and Hunters Services personnel.

The Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), DSP Udeme Edet, confirmed the incident, adding that an investigation has commenced to track down the perpetrators.