

GUNMEN KILL 2 IN NASARAWA



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Two people were killed yesterday when unknown gunmen stopped the vehicle in which they were travelling.

It was gathered that the gunmen also set the vehicle ablaze. The incident occurred a few meters away from the Federal University, Lafia.

A third person who escaped was rushed to a hospital for treatment for machete cuts by villagers at Mararaba Akunza.

Witnesses said the gunmen stopped the vehicle and asked the driver to drive his two passengers into a bush behind a public primary school.

As at press time, the identities of the attackers were still unknown.

The vehicle was said to have been approaching Lafia, from the direction of Daddere in the neighbouring Obi Local Government Area.

The state police spokesman, ASP Umaru Ismaila, confirmed the incident, adding that truckloads of armed policemen have been sent into the bush to search for the attackers.

"Our men are still in the bush, searching," he said.

Spokesman of the university, Mr. Simon Onah, confirmed that the incident occurred close to the institution but that it was not affected.

"Our students and staffs were not affected in the incident. It happened outside the university," Mr. Onah said.

Only last week, gunmen who were suspected to be members of Ombatse, an Eggon group, were reported to have stopped a vehicle conveying a traditional ruler and a policeman as well as members of a community in Alushi area of Keana. The attackers allegedly killed three of the occupants, while the policeman escaped with bullet wounds.

An ex-leader of the banned Ombatse, Zamani Allumaga, denied his group's involvement, and said Eggon people were defending themselves from invading Fulani mercenaries, an allegation Miyetti Allah, a Fulani group, denied.

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