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**Crime**

Gunmen kill 2 policemen, abduct Portuguese in Kogi

By Itodo Daniel Sule, Lokoja | Publish Date: Oct 25 2017 2:00AM

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Gunmen have killed two policemen and abducted an expatriate construction engineer along the Obajana-Oshokoshoko road in Kogi State.

Daily Trust learnt that the gunmen had emerged from the bush while the expatriate engineer identified as Jose Machada, a Portuguese, was inspecting an ongoing road construction project handled by AG Dangote Company Ltd late Monday.

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The gunmen were said to have engaged the policemen on guard duty at the construction site in a gun battle, killing one of them identified as Sgt Gini John on the spot while the second policeman, Inspector Ezekiel Negedu, who was also shot died later at the hospital.

It was further learnt that the gunmen abducted the expatriate engineer and fled into the bush.

Confirming the incident, spokesman of the Kogi Police Command, William Aya, said the gunmen were about 15 and that the Commissioner of Police immediately directed the Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP) in charge of operations to mobilise operatives from the Special Anti-Robbery Squad (SARS), the Police Mobile Force (PMF), the Counter Terrorism Unit (CTU) and conventional policemen to comb the bushes for the possible rescue of the abducted expatriate.

Aya said the Police Commissioner has visited the scene of the incident and met with the management of Dangote company and assured on the efforts being made by the police to rescue the abducted expatriate.

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