

4 police orderlies feared killed as Ohakim's convoy bombed

From Jude Aguguo
Owuamanam, Owerri

Four policemen attached to a former governor of Imo State, Ikedi Ohakim, have been killed when gunmen reportedly bombed his convoy on Monday.

Our correspondent gathered that the incident happened as the former governor was returning from Oriagu in Ehime Mbano.

It was not clear whether

he was going to his house at Okohia in Isiala Mbano or going to Owerri, the state capital, but an eyewitness said when the gunmen were unable to get him, they bombed the backup vehicle conveying the police and set it on fire.

This led to the death of four of his police orderlies.

Ohakim was governor of Imo state between 2007 and 2011.

Another eyewitness said that the former was with two of his children

when the gunmen struck.

It was gathered that for the brave display by the driver of the ex-governor, the hoodlums would have got their target.

The former governor, it was gathered made a swift call and reinforcement was sent to Owerri after the gunmen had escaped.

Efforts to speak with the Imo State Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), CSP Mike Abattam, were fruitless. He did not answer his phone calls and had yet to reply a text

message sent to him as of the time of filing this report.

The police in Imo and Ebonyi recently identified IPOB as the masterminds of the burning of the INEC offices and the killing of residents for defying the sit-at-home order declared by the outlawed group.

Few days ago, the Inspector General of Police (IGP), Usman Baba, had raised the alarm that separatist groups in the country were working to

disrupt the 2023 general elections.

Baba, who was represented by the Deputy Inspector General in charge of operations, Dandaura Mustapha, spoke when he appeared before the House of Representatives ad hoc committee investigating attacks on the facilities of the INEC.

The police chief said the attacks on the offices of the electoral body increased after the ban on political campaigns was lifted.