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Truck crushes five security agents in Benue

From Simeon Nwakaudu, Makurdi

TRAGEDY struck in Benue State on Wednesday night when a truck ran over three soldiers and two policemen serving under the state government's security outfit, Operation Zenda, along the Aliade-Gboko Federal Highway.

The security personnel were on the highway maintaining security due to the high level of insecurity on that route where armed robbers operate daily, causing mayhem to people who ply that route, when the incident occurred.

An eye witness told The Guardian that they heard a loud bang near the Oju junction of the Federal Highway in the night. He said upon rushing to the scene, they saw the bodies of the security personnel on the road, before they were later removed.

Residents of the area trooped to the scene to watch the wreckage of the Hilux vehicle and the mangled bodies of the security personnel who had worked in the community for months.

In a statement, Governor Gabriel Suswam sent his condolences to the families of those who lost their lives in the accident, saying that he felt pain and agony over their death.

The statement signed by Mr. James Uloko on behalf of the governor noted that the security personnel died in active service, pointing out that the government will ensure that families of the bereaved will not suffer.

Contacted, Mr. Richard Dauda, Benue State Police Command Public Relations Officer, confirmed the accident and deaths.

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