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Gunmen abduct Kogi first class chief, pharmacist, behead two soldiers in Enugu

From Lawrence Njoku, Enugu and Ibrahim Obansa, Lokoja

first class traditional ruler **A**in Kogi State, the Adogu of Eganyi in the Ajaokuta Local Government area of the state, Alhaji Mohammed Adembe was on Tuesday evening kidnapped by unknown gunmen along Okene -Adogo road.

The kidnapping of the royal father, which was one of many in recent times, occurred barely three days after the kidnap of a pharmacist, Abdulazeez Obajimoh, the Managing Director, of AZECO Pharmaceutical Company at Ozuwaya in Okene, Kogi State. The abduction of the pharmacist Obajimoh result in a gun duel, leading to the death of one Habeeb Anda and injuries

to two others before the kidnappers escaped with their victim.

An indigene of Eganyi, who spoke with journalists on the phone, said the royal father, who was alone in his car, left Okene around 4:00p.m. on his way to Eganyi community, but was abducted between Ebiya and Eganyi by hoodlums suspected to be kidnappers. According to him, the kidnap-Wednesday, called the family of the monarch and demanded a states. N30 million naira ransom. The Police Public Relations Officer, Kogi State Police Com-William Ayah, mand, confirmed the kidnap, saying the police command had deployed special squad to trail the abductors.

He called on the general public to assist the police with information to enable security agents the royal father. rescue TN a related development, two Isoldiers were on Tuesday killed and beheaded at a checkpoint along Iggah-Asaba Road in the Uzo-Uwani Local Government Area of Enugu State.

They were reportedly shot dead before being beheaded by unidentified gunmen at the pers around 1:00p.m. on checkpoint in the border town between Enugu and Anambra

> A top police officer, who spoke on the condition of anonymity, said the gunmen were dressed in black outfits. He added that the hoodlums beheaded the soldiers and fled with their heads through Anambra State.