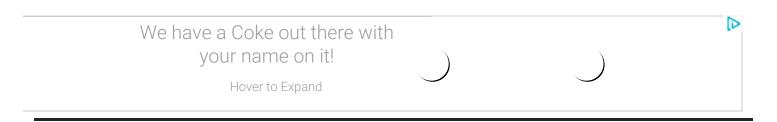
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## Two die as police, gunmen exchange fire in Bauchi

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By Patience Ogbodo-Iwuagwu

/ Correspondent, Bauchi

**Two persons** were killed, following a gun battle between the joint police/vigilante patrol team and unknown gunmen along Bayanga-Dogonruwa feeder road in Bauchi, Bauchi State.

The deceased were identified as a vigilante member of the troop and one of the gunmen were killed in the gun duel.

The State Police Command spokesman, DSP Haruna Mohammed, who confirmed the incident, said the patrol team was ambushed by the gunmen on Thursday at the boundary between Ningi and Toro Local Government Areas of the state.

Mohammed identified the slain vigilante group member as 25-year-old Musa Wakili from Bayanga village in Toro LGA.

According to him, "joint police vigilante group while on

patrol along Bayanga Dogonruwa feeder road, boundary between Ningi and Toro LGA were ambushed by unknown gunmen suspected to be armed robbers leading to a fierce exchange of gun battle.

"As a result, one of the attackers whose identity is yet to be ascertained was shot dead while a vigilante man, Musa Wakili male and 25 years of Bayanga Village of Toro LGA died due to gunshot injuries he sustained during the encounter and the rest fled into the bush with bullet wounds," he added.

According to Mohammed, exhibits recovered from the gunmen included two AK 47 rifles with beech numbers: 563747269 and 197527681; 21 rounds of .9mm life ammunition; two magazines; the sum of N7,140 and Etisalat recharge cards valued at N1,600.

He said the case was under investigation, while intensive patrol is ongoing in the area, to apprehend the fleeing suspects.

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