

Herdsmen Kill Naval Officer, Kidnap 17 In Edo

By **Francis Onoiribholo** - July 18, 2019

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Benin City – Felix Akanbi, a Naval Warrant Officer, was allegedly shot and killed by herdsmen who kidnapped 17 passengers travelling from Akwa Ibom State to Lagos en route Edo State on Tuesday.

Reports have it that men of the Edo State Police Command swung into action on receiving the information and rescued the 17 passengers.

According to sources, the four herdsmen, all armed with AK47 rifles, opened fire on the 18-seater bus along the Benin-Lagos highway.

It was gathered that the herdsmen/kidnappers intercepted the 18-seater bus between Ekiadolor and Ovia River Bridge and, after dispossessing all the passengers of their money, handsets and other valuables, selected eight of the passengers and matched them into the bush, leaving the other ten.

As the kidnappers were taking the victims to their camp in the Ovia forest, Warrant Officer Felix Akanbi, who could not walk fast enough, was shot and killed by the herdsmen.

It was learnt that on receiving the information, the Divisional Police Officer in charge of the Ekiadolor Police Division, mobilised his men to go after the kidnappers and the victims.

It was gathered that after combing the bush for over two hours, the police rescued the seven victims alive and recovered the body of Akanbi.

Confirming the report, the Edo State Police Public Relations Officer, Chidi Nwabuzor, a DSP, said the police were combing the bush in search of the kidnappers, adding that Warrant Officer Akanbi was close to his retirement before his untimely death.

He said the police would do everything possible to fish out the kidnappers.

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