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Robbers kill policemen in Akwa Ibom, Edo

Posted by: Kazeem Ibrahim, Uyo, Osemwengie Ben Ogbemudia and Osagie Otabor, Benin in News 5 days ago

Gunmen yesterday shot dead a policeman in Uyo, the Akwa Ibom State capital.

The robbers in an attempt to snatch a Toyota Camry opened fire on the policeman, who tried to stop them.

The robbers went away with the policeman's rifle.

According to eyewitnesses, the robbers were six and each of them had an AK47 rifle with them.

One of the eyewitnesses said: **"The robbers are young boys. They opened**

fire on the policeman who tried to stop them from snatching somebody's car. You can see that the policeman in the pool of his own blood on the ground.

"They even went away with his rifle. Why kill an innocent man for God's sake? These robbers must be arrested."

The incident occurred on Abak road by the traffic light in front of St Patrick Primary School in Iboko Offot.

When our correspondent visited, the policeman was seen on the floor in the pool of his blood. His body was later evacuated into a waiting police patrol van.

There was traffic jam on Abak road as a result of the incident. The police immediately launched a stop-and-search.

Police spokesman Etim Dickson, confirmed the incident but gave no further details as to the identity of the policeman.

"Yes, one of our colleagues was shot dead today along Abak road," he said.

In Edo State, gunmen yesterday killed two policemen on the Benin-Auchi Expressway. A civilian was also killed in the attack.

The incident was said to have occurred at about 4:30pm when four suspected robbers in a red Volkswagen Passat trying to overtake a police patrol van opened fire on them, killing two of them instantly. A stray bullet hit a passer-by in the head.

The bodies of the victims were taken to the Central Hospital mortuary.

Police sources said policemen have been drafted to the scene to search for the fleeing gunmen.

Police spokesman Moses Eguavoen could not be reached for comments but sources said the Commissioner of Police, Folusho Adebajo, has visited the scene.

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