

Kidnap victim rescued as police kill suspect

THE police in Ebonyi State have rescued a kidnap victim who was abducted at Umuoghara quarry site in Ezza North local Government Area.

One of the abductors was reportedly killed in a shootout with the police.

A suspected kidnap gang, said to be in police uniform, invaded the

From **Ogochukwu Anioke,**
Abakaliki

victim's shop and pretended to be looking for someone. But they suddenly attacked the victim and whisked him away.

Police spokesman George Okafor, an Assistant Superintendent of Police (ASP), said the hoodlums took away the victim, whose name could not be immediately as-

certained, and demanded N30 million ransom.

Okafor said: "The hoodlums kept the victim in a hideout at Umuoghara and demanded N30 million ransom, which they later reduced. The ransom was taken to where the kidnappers said it should be dropped. Police-men had cordoned every-

"So, the police opened fire

on them and killed one of them. The victim was rescued unhurt."

He said one of the policemen, who engaged the kidnappers in a gun duel, was injured during the shootout.

Okafor said the policeman was receiving treatment at an undisclosed hospital.

The police spokesman said the victim was kept in one of the abductors' hideouts.

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