

Gunmen kill policeman, steal rifle



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There was tension at the Ogor/Evwreni axis of Ughelli North Council Area of [Delta State](#), following the killing of a police officer, Jude Ukpaka, by unidentified armed men.

Ukpaka, who was attached to Dragon 19, Ughelli Area Command, was shot dead Wednesday night and his AK-47 rifle carted away by the suspects.

The Nation learnt that the deceased officer was with two other colleagues at a checkpoint along the Ogor-Evwreni axis of the East-West Road, a spot notorious for robbery and kidnapping operations.

His killing occurred two months after two policemen, PC Ujeyah Matthew and Sergeant Ijebu attached to the Ofuoma Division, were killed and their guns stolen at Ekredjebor community in the council area.

Efforts to get a reaction from the Delta Police Command proved futile, as repeated calls to the Police Public Relations Officer, PPRO, DSP Bright Edafe, showed “line busy”.

An SMS sent across was yet to be responded to as of press time.

However, a senior security source from the Delta State Police Command, who confirmed the incident, revealed that the other officers escaped into a nearby swamp.

“They ran into a swamp until they were rescued by a team from Ughelli Area Command, while the remains of the deceased officer has been deposited at the mortuary,” the source stated.

A resident who spoke with this reporter lamented that they may be at the receiving end of the wrath of armed officers.

“In May when two policemen were killed, several innocent people suffered police beatings and arrests. That is our fear now,” the resident said.