Lagosmetro

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1 feared killed in FESTAC gun battle

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ESIDENTS of FESTAC town were on Tuesday overcome by fear when a combined team of military men and police engaged heavily armed suspected pipeline vandals in a fierce gun battle.

One person was feared to have been killed in the gun battle, but the police in the state insisted that nobody was killed or injured.

The shooting which lasted for about 40 minutes, sent residents of the Lagos community into pandemonium with many of them taking cover in nearby houses.

Many of the residents who spoke with Lagos Metro said that they had thought that the gunshots were from armed robbers who had come to rob banks in the area

A resident of the area who simply identified himself as Sunday noted that it was similar to what they faced a few weeks ago when some people were killed during a bank robbery.

It was gathered that the suspected vandals were in FESTAC when they were confronted by the joint security men.

It was further gathered that on sighting the vandals, the security forces opened fire on them and a gun battle ensued between the two groups. A resident who identified himself as Sunday said the clash actually happened around the 7th Avenue but the effect of the shooting was felt in every part of FESTAC.

The image maker in charge of the state police command, Joe Offor, while speaking with Lagos Metro denied that it was a robbery operation and also insisted that nobody was killed in the gun duel.

Offor stated that the policemen repelled some suspected pipeline vandals who were in FESTAC for operation.

He also assured residents of FESTAC that the police and other security agents were on ground to prevent any break down of law and order in the community.

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