

YekiniJimoh | Lokoja

Gunmen kill man, kidnap three in Kogi

E GUME Community in Dekina Local Government Area of Kogi State was invaded by unknown gunmen, killing one man and kidnapping three other persons.

An eye witness account revealed that the attack, which occurred at Royal Garden Relaxation Spot, along Anyigba-Ankpa highway, on Thursday night, began when the gunmen allegedly dressed in Fu-

lani attires stormed the open arena of the relaxation spot and started shooting sporadically at customers who scampered for safety.

It was gathered that the deceased, Anthony Monday, was shot dead while struggling to escape at the scene of the incident.

Further report had it that one of the deceased's friends, who was sharing the same table with him, was also shot and receiving treatment in one of the hospitals

in the area.

Sunday Tribune reliably gathered that, the hotel manager's 18 months' old boy, a brother of the late Anthony and one lady were among those abducted.

Sources said the kidnappers had fled the scene of the incident before the arrival of policemen.

But barely 12 hours after the incident, sources said the kidnappers contacted the families of their victims demanding for ransom.

Confirming the incident, Commissioner of Police, Kogi State Command, Ede Ayuba Ekpeji, said "I received a report from Egume Division that three unknown armed men attacked Royal Garden Relaxation Spot, shooting sporadically".

"Immediately, the DPO mobilized operatives to the scene where he met one yet to be identified body lying in pool of his blood.

"My men moved him to the Hospital where he was con-

firmed dead. The body was deposited at the hospital for autopsy."

He advised members of the public to sharpen their power of observation and always report promptly any suspicious movement, objects as well as activities of criminal elements within their neighborhood to the Police or any other security agencies in the State.

In his reaction, the National President of Egume Ome Descendants Union, (EODU),

Alhaji Muhammed Lawal Ibrahim expressed shock over the ugly incident and appealed to policemen to ensure that perpetrators are apprehended and punished accordingly to serve as deterrent to others.

He further enjoined the people of Egume to remain calm and go about their normal businesses as efforts are being put in place by the law enforcement agents to protect lives and property in the community.

Motorists decry deplorable roads

Military arrests 10 suspected cult members in Iba