

Gunmen kill 6 policemen, one soldier in C/River, cart away arms

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TRAGEDY struck in Cross River State in the early hours of Wednesday as some unknown gunmen killed six policemen and a soldier at two checkpoints located at Ofatura and Onyadama communities in Obubra Local Government Area of the state.

The gunmen equally made

away with the arms of the slain security personnel, raising security concerns in the state, where barely a week ago, four other policemen were killed in the same manner.

Nigerian Tribune gathered that among the deceased officers at Onyadama was one Inspector Best Okereke, a native of Imabana community in neighbouring Abi Local Gov-

ernment Area, who had his fingers chopped off and got a bullet in the chest.

The soldier victim, it was further gathered, was shot in the hand at another checkpoint and died hours later.

The killing of the six security men occurred barely a week after four policemen —Inspector Samuel John with AP. NO 412921; Inspector Abam Otu with AP. NO

179441; Sergeant Abang Ajie with F/NO 477144 and Sergeant Godspower Okoi with F/NO 479139— were killed on the Idundu axis of Calabar, the state capital.

An eyewitness told newsmen that the gunmen, driving a *Sienna* car, opened fire at the policemen who were at Onyadama and killed four of them. The gunmen were said to have alighted from their car and spoiled the slain

policemen of their arms.

The same gang was said to have driven down to Ofatura, where some other armed personnel mounted a checkpoint, shot sporadically and killed two policemen, while others took to their heels. The gunmen also made away with the arms of the two slain policemen.

One of the slain policemen at Ofatura checkpoint, simply identified a Raymond,

was said to be from that locality. The gunmen also engaged soldiers on checkpoint duty at Obubara junction and shot a soldier in the arm, who later died.

The state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Ms. Irene Ugbo, who confirmed the incidents, said that the command was on the issue, trying to ascertain what really happened and promised to get back to newsmen.

Cabal behind Anana