

Gunmen kill policeman, two soldiers in Anambra

Lawmaker abducted in gov's community

Michael Ovat | Awka

GUNMEN in different attacks on Sunday killed a policeman and two soldiers in Anambra State, just as they also abducted a lawmaker.

In the first attack, a yet-to-be identified policeman was shot dead at Eke Oko, in Aguata Local Government Area of the state, although the police spokesperson, DSP Tochukwu Ikenga, claimed the victim was not a member of the Force.

An eyewitness informed newsmen that the victim, who was riding on his motorcycle, was intercepted on the road by gunmen and shot dead at about 6:10 p.m.

In a statement, the police said: "Anambra State police operatives on May 15, recovered a lifeless body in a Nigeria Police Force (NPF) T-shirt on Oko expressway

"Preliminary information shows that the yet-to-be identified body is not a member of the Nigeria Police Force.

"Meanwhile, investigation has begun to unravel the identity of the deceased and the perpetrators of the crime."

Also on Sunday night, two soldiers were reportedly shot dead at 3-3 Estate in Nkwelle Ezunaka, near Onitsha.

A resident of the area who spoke on the condition of anonymity said the shooting, which started at about 10:00 p.m. lasted late into the night.

It was gathered that the gunmen attacked the soldiers at their position within the estate.

The source said: "Yesterday night [Sunday], at the housing estate gate, some gunmen attacked the military men securing us. The shootings lasted for about three hours."

Nigerian Tribune gathered that the gunmen also stormed the Government Reserved Area (GRA) in Onitsha, where they shot intermittently.

Meanwhile, a member of the Anambra State House of Assembly, Dr Okechukwu Okoye, has been kidnapped by gunmen.

The lawmaker, popularly known as "Okey Di Okay," was kidnapped late on Sunday evening.

Okoye is representing Aguata II State Constituency, same constituency as the governor of the state, Professor Charles Chukwuma Soludo.

Confirming the incident, DSP Ikenga, said a Sienna vehicle use by the criminals for the abduction and a Lexus SUV belonging to the lawmaker had been recovered.