

Gunmen invade Edo community, kill 6, injure 4 others

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AT least six persons, including three members of the Edo State Security Network, were killed by gunmen who invaded Okhunmwun community in the Ovia North-East Local government Area of Edo State, last Thursday.

The assailants also reportedly shot and wounded several others including a septuagenarian retired military officer, Mr Peter Omorogbe, and the Head of the Tactical team of ESSN, Mr Osarenren

Police gave the identities of the casualties as Endurance Ehioretin, Victor Uwaifo, and D.D (ESSN operatives), Osas Orobor, indigene of the community, Sada Haruna, and

Wada Hilia, commercial motorcycle riders.

A source in the community stated that some persons are missing since the attack.

Sources revealed that the assailants came to the community and laid ambush at Okhunmwun road by Uhogua Junction where they killed five of their victims.

It was also gathered that the armed men thereafter went to the residence of one Osas Orobor, a recently trained ESSN member, and shot him dead.

When Sunday Tribune visited the community, many houses around the scene of attack were deserted.

The acting head of Okhunmwun community, Pa Monday Oviahon, was said to

have been unavailable when Sunday Tribune visited..

However, the former vice chairman of the community, Mr Aigbedion Ifa, said the attack was shocking.

The youth leader of the community Mr Louis Ula-men, said he would speak on the aggression unleashed on his community on a later day.

Confirming the killings, the Public Relations Officer for Edo State Police Command, SP Chidi Nwabuzor, said one Charles Aghedo, a prison escapee reportedly led others to attack the community over a leadership tussle.

"The Okaighele of Okhunmwun community reported the incident at Ekiadolor Police Division along Benin-Lagos Expressway.

"He identified some persons who have been troubling the community and have vowed to take over the leadership and control of the community by force," the police spokesman stated.

SP Nwabuzor further said that on the receipt of the information, police in Ekiadolor moved into the community where six fatalities were evacuated.

He revealed that one single-barrelled gun, one live ammunition, 62 expended cartridges, one Toyota Sienna and a minibus were recovered.

He said the police had made remarkable success over the matter, adding that investigation was ongoing.