

Gunmen kill two policemen, passer-by in Rivers, Borno

**Chukwudi Akasike,
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TWO policemen were shot dead by unknown persons along the East-West Road in Ahoada West Local Government Area of Rivers State on Sunday evening.

The Ahoada incident coincided with the killing of a passer-by during an exchange of fire between police and persons suspected to be members of

Boko Haram in Benisheikh, Maiduguri, Borno State.

Four men were said to have stormed the Ahoada end of the East-West Road in an ash-coloured Toyota saloon car and opened fire on the three policemen at their duty post.

While they succeeded in killing two, one, who sustained gunshot injury, managed to escape.

The incident, which happened around 5.30pm, attracted sympathisers

that rushed one of the policemen to the hospital for immediate treatment.

The policeman, according to an eyewitness died before they could get to the nearest hospital.

The source said, "The gunmen did not come to rob anybody of anything; at least it did not look like that. They came like people on a mission; drove straight to the point where the policemen always stayed, opened their car door and

opened fire on them."

The Rivers State Police Commissioner, Mohammed Indabawa, confirmed the incident, but added that he had yet to get the details of what happened.

Meanwhile, Borno State Commissioner of Police, Alhaji Bala Hassan, said in a statement that the gunmen attacked the Benisheikh police station around 7pm but were repelled by policemen on duty.

"When the situation became tense, a reinforcement was sought from the crack unit close by.

"The attackers were repelled but they used a rocket launcher to attack the building, which destroyed part of the structure," Hassan said.

The commissioner, however, said the attackers escaped after falling to the superior power of the police team.

"Unfortunately, one civilian was killed after the encounter. He must have been killed in the crossfire," Hassan said.

two years for defrauding Turk \$35,000

\$35,000 to the owner as restitution.

Eze was sentenced to two years imprisonment for each of the nine counts preferred against him. But the judge held that the jail term should run concurrently from May 21, 2012 and excluding the two years he had spent in prison when he could not perfect his bail terms.

The said amount was Eze's share from the total sum of \$181,000 fraudulently obtained from the Turkish citizen under

the guise of supplying him used rail scraps.

Eze was arraigned in March 2010 on nine counts of conspiracy, obtaining by false pretence, forgery and altering.

He had pleaded not guilty to the charges and was granted a stringent bail condition which he could not perfect.

However, after spending over two years in prison custody, Eze who claimed to be a trader, opted for a plea bargain with the EFCC

and pleaded guilty to the offence.

EFCC prosecutor, Mr Omeiza Adebola, said Eze had between July 2008 and November 2009 in Ikeja, Lagos, conspired with Tijani Ladan and Uche Dingba (both at large) to commit the fraud.

Adebola said the syndicate fraudulently collected various sums of money totalling \$181,600 from their victim without carrying out their part of the bargain.