

Gunmen kill Julius Berger worker, abduct another



A Julius Berger construction site

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Gunmen suspected to be kidnappers on Friday killed a German construction worker with Julius Berger Nigeria Plc, and abducted his colleague while on their way to Ogbere in the Ijebu East Local Government Area of Ogun State.

The victims were said to be on their way to their quarry and were without their usual escorts, when the incident happened.

It was learnt that the deceased German national, whose name had yet to be known, was a sub-contractor.

A source told our correspondent that the driver of the vehicle in which the Germans were travelling in, was trying to make a U-turn when they suddenly ran into the abductors, who fired bullets at their car.

The Deputy Police Public Relations Officer, Ogun State Command, Mr. Abimbola Oyeyemi, said the police were on the trail of the abductors.

He said, "The hoodlums accosted the expatriates on the way to their quarry. They hid in the bush and as soon as they sighted their vehicle coming, they opened fire on them.

"One of the expatriates was hit by the bullet, in the process, his colleague was also abducted. The one that was hit by the bullet was rushed to a hospital, where he later died."

The Head of the Communications Department, Julius Berger Nigeria Plc, Lena Jaber, confirmed the incident.

She said the company was working with the government to ensure the safe release of the expatriate.

She said, "I can confirm that several members of the company staff, along with the subcontractor, were attacked along the Sagamu-Benin Expressway; they were in Ogun State. Actually, they were in two cars, moving separately, without escorts. Subsequently, one expatriate was shot and he died, while the other was abducted.

"Other details regarding negotiations are actually under wraps now. Our priority is to work with the Nigerian authorities to make the release of the abducted expatriate possible. Therefore, we want to keep some confidential information to ourselves."

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