

Robbers kill DPO, injure four policemen in Rivers

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A Divisional Police Officer in charge of Rumuokoro Police Station, Port Harcourt, Rivers State, Mr. Cliff Igwegbe, has been killed by a group of armed robbers.

It was gathered that the late Igwegbe, a Chief Superintendent of Police, had led some security operatives on a rescue mission before they were ambushed by the hoodlums.

Four other policemen, who were injured during the incident that occurred at about 5pm on Sunday, were later rushed to an undisclosed hospital.

It was also learnt that Igwegbe and his team were

on a mission to stop a group of armed robbers, who had earlier stolen a vehicle belonging to the lawmaker representing Emohua State Constituency in the State House of Assembly, Mr. Samuel Ogeh.

The armed robbers, according to a source, had stormed the residence of the lawmaker located at D-Line in the state capital.

The deceased and his team were said to have blocked the robbers at Rumuigbo, a development that led to a shootout.

Our correspondent gathered that the armed robbers, who had sensed that the police were coming after them, had shot at the security operatives before the security agents could attack them.

"On getting the information about the armed robbers, the DPO and other policemen raced towards the place. But unknown to them, the same armed robbers hid somewhere and attacked them," the source, who identified himself as Saviour, said.

Another source told our correspondent that the DPO and his team had tried to wriggle out of the ambush before they were hit by the bullets of the bandits.

Earlier, there were speculations that an unidentified policeman was attacked by armed robbers until the state Police Public Relations Officer, Mr. Ahmad Mohammad, confirmed that Igwegbe was actually killed on the line of duty.