

Bandits kill eight in Benue vigilance office's attack

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Gunmen

Attah Ede, Makurdi

Five days after the skeleton of the Parish Priest of St. Bernard Catholic Church, Okpoga, Rev. Fr. John Adeyi, was found in a nearby bush, a band of gunmen killed eight residents after an attack on the Okpoga vigilante office.

Our correspondent learnt that the gunmen allegedly stormed the vigilance members' office located at Ugwu Okpoga, headquarters of the Okpokwu Local Government Area of Benue State, at exactly 1.30pm on Sunday.

They were said to have opened fire indiscriminately around the office and in the process, allegedly shot at five men, who died on

the spot.

It was learnt that three of the injured victims, who were being rushed to the General Hospital, Okpoga, by the Police, died before they could get to the hospital.

The Police Public Relations Officer, Benue State Police Command, Moses Yamu, confirmed that five men were killed in the attack, while the other three died on their way to the General Hospital, Okpoga.

Yamu, who decried the high rate of criminality in the state, said the state command was doing all it could to ensure that the crime rate was brought under control.

A source told our correspondent that the gunmen, suspected to be armed robbers, were angry with the vigilance group members because of the closed watch of the guards on the hoodlums.

The source added that this had made it impossible to rob some targets in the area.