

METRO PLUS

CP orders probe as suspected Akwa Ibom cultists kill policeman, burn vehicle

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Akwa Ibom State Commissioner of Police, Andrew Amiengheme

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Suspected cultists on Monday attacked a checkpoint manned by policemen attached to the Quick Response Squad at Ikpe Annang junction in the Essien Udim Local Government Area of Akwa Ibom State and killed a police inspector, while the others escaped.

It was gathered that the officer was burnt to death inside the police van by the hoodlums, who were said to be on reprisal.

An eyewitness, who pleaded not to be named, told our correspondent in Uyo that the suspected cultists stormed the scene on motorcycles and shot at the officers, who fled and left the inspector in the van.

The eyewitness stated, “The attack we believe is a reprisal because police operatives have been chasing the cultists, armed robbers and other categories of criminals in the neighbouring local government areas of Essien Udim, Ikot Ekpene and Obot Akara.

“When the other policemen escaped, the gunmen set the Hilux van on fire with the inspector, who probably was taken unawares when the armed men suddenly launched the attack.”

The state Police Public Relations Officer, Odiko Macdon, confirmed the development, adding that thorough investigation had since been ordered by the Commissioner of Police, Mr Amienheme Andrew.

Macdon stated, “The command has confirmed the news of the unfortunate incident at Ikpe Annang junction, which led to the death of one of our men.

“While the CP is saddened by this development and condoles with the deceased’s family, he has ordered a discreet investigation and vowed to bring the perpetrators to justice.”

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