

Ogun rice smugglers kill customs officer, agency probes attack

Daud Olatunji 13 September 2021

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Suspected smugglers have killed an officer with the Nigeria Customs Service at Owode, in the Yewa South Local Government Area of Ogun State.

PUNCH Metro gathered that the victim, who was a driver, was attached to the Federal Operations Unit, Zone A.

The Zonal Customs Public Relations Officer, Theophilus Duniya, confirmed the incident to our correspondent on Sunday. He was, however, silent on the name of the officer.

Duniya said customs officers had made some seizures and in the course of their movement, one of the vehicles developed mechanical problems.

He said, "In the process of fixing the vehicle, the suspected smugglers mobilised themselves in large numbers with arms, charms, stones and other dangerous objects to murder the officer."

Duniya disclosed that the corpse had been deposited in a mortuary.

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He noted that the Acting Controller of the FOU, Zone A, Hussein Ejibunu, had directed investigation into the murder.

“The acting controller condemned the killing and reiterated his resolve to keep suppressing smuggling and arresting perpetrators of the criminal activity.

“He said the killing will not deter the FOU, Zone A, under his leadership, from carrying out its statutory functions in the interest of national security and the economy,” the customs spokesman added.