One cop killed as Abia command beats back invading gunmen

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Abia CP, Janet Agbede

The Abia State Police Command has confirmed the killing of an inspector during an attack on its headquarters in Umuahia, the state capital.

The state Police Public Relations Officer, Geoffrey Obonna, said the incident happened around 1am on Monday, December 13, 2021.

The police spokesman explained that the gunmen, who were disguised in military camouflage, opened fire on policemen on pin-down duty in front of the 28 Police Mobile Force beside the state command headquarters, Bende Road, Umuahia.

"The policemen, who were on red alert, returned fire, which repelled the hoodlums from carrying out their dastardly intention. They quickly fled the scene with bullet injuries.

"Regrettably, Inspector Friday Adama of 17 Police Mobile Force, Akure, on Operation Restore Peace special duty in the command, lost his life during the gun duel," Obonna added.

He urged residents, operators of medical facilities and the public within and outside the state "to volunteer information on anyone found or presented with bullet injuries to the police or other security agencies."

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"Parents and guardians are also advised to warn their children and wards to refrain from evil acts before, during and after this festive period," he added.

Obonna disclosed that the attack was not targeted at the police headquarters, but adjourning Mobile Police Force base, adding that on reaching the Mopol checkpoint, one of the gunmen who was in military uniform, came down and started shooting.

He disclosed that one of the hoodlums was also killed.