

# Gunmen raid Anambra health centre, kill policeman, abduct another

**Ikenna Obianeri, Awka**

**G**UNMEN have attacked the Eziamma-Uli Health Centre in the Ihiala Local Government Area of Anambra State, killing one policeman and abducting another.

The incident happened late on Wednesday during a medical outreach programme organised by the Uli Global Ambassadors for Development Initiative.

An eyewitness, who spoke to our correspondent at the scene of the incident on Thursday, said the gunmen stormed the venue of the programme and shot sporadically, adding that participants and organisers scamped to safety.

No one could, however, ascertain the reason for the attack.

PUNCH Metro gathered that many persons, including patients,

sustained injuries while running to safety.

The eyewitness, who did not identify himself, said during the attack, the men abducted another officer.

The witness said, "The gunmen shot two police officers, one died on the spot, while the other who sustained injuries was rushed to a hospital where he is receiving medical treatment. The third officer was abducted and up until now, no one knows his whereabouts."

An official of ULIGADI, who did not identify himself because he was not authorised to speak on the matter, confirmed the incident.

He said, "One officer died after the unfortunate incident. The second officer is at the hospital receiving medical attention. We are looking for the third officer. The recovery team is

making efforts to rescue him."

The dead policeman was identified as Inspector Ezekiel Aliyu, while the name of the injured police officer at the hospital could not be ascertained.

The policemen were from the 19 Police Mobile Force.

## Suspected cultist stabs rival to death in Rivers

**Dennis Naku, Port Harcourt**

**A** 25-year-old man identified as Omemma has been stabbed to death by suspected members of a cult at Mile 1, in the Diobu axis of Port Harcourt, Rivers State.

The victim, who was said to be a member of a gang in the area, was reportedly going about his normal activities when the assailants attacked

The state police spokesman, Mr Ikenga Tochukwu, who confirmed the incident, said the command was working to unravel the identities of the attackers.

He said, "What happened at the Eziamma Uli yesterday (Wednesday) is an example of the sacrifice we pay

as police officers in service to the nation and humanity. The details of the incident are still sketchy, but it involved police personnel providing security services. Police operatives have cordoned off the area and the operation is ongoing. Further details shall be communicated."

and inflicted knife cuts on him.

He later died.

A source in the area told our correspondent that Omemma's killing was a reprisal for an earlier attack suspected to have been launched by his group.

The incident was said to have caused commotion in the area, as traders and commuters took to their heels before local vigilantes intervened and calm was restored.

The acting spokesman for the state police command, Grace Irengi-Koko, confirmed the incident, adding that an investigation had been ordered to unmask the attackers.

"I won't say it was a rival cult attack. It is safe to say he was stabbed by an unknown person. For now, the matter is under investigation.

"There is calm now and after our investigation, we will know who carried out the attack," she stated.