

How gunmen opened fire on my convoy –Apostle Suleman

Deji Lambo, Daniel Ayantoye and Adeyinka Adedipe

Gunmen on Friday attacked the convoy of the President's Omega Fire Ministries Worldwide Apostle Johnson Suleman, along Benin-Auchi Road, Edo State, and killed three cops and four others.

It was gathered that the cleric returned from a foreign trip and was heading for a destination in the state when the gunmen attacked his convoy.

Suleman's lawyer, Samuel Amune, who confirmed the attack to Saturday PUNCH, said the cleric just returned from a programme in Tanzania, adding that he escaped death by a whisker.

He said, "He was returning from a journey when some assassins attacked him. Three of his police orderlies among others, died. He was returning to Auchi when the gunmen attacked him along Sabongida down to the Warake axis and Auchi shares a boundary with Warake. He had passed Warake and was entering the boundaries of Auchi when the attack happened."

Reacting to the incident in a video posted on his Twitter handle on Friday, Suleman said that he escaped an assassination attempt on his life, noting that seven lives were lost to the attack.

He said, "My car was attacked; they opened fire on my car and kept spraying bullets, my wife and kids were in the escort car in the front. They killed the police; they killed the other people on the other escort car and the buses with us. Seven people moving in the convoy were killed."

"People who did this are expecting me to come out and mention their

•Three cops, four others killed in attack

names so they can come out and deny, I won't do that. The truth of the matter is, you can't kill me, my life is in the hand of God, I'm a man of God."

Commenting on the incident, a security expert, Dickson Osajie, condemned the lack of security in the state, especially as the attack happened

Osinbajo's wife part of Tinubu-Shettima campaign, says APC

Alexander Okere

The All Progressives Congress has said the wife of the vice president, Mrs Dolapo Osinbajo, was not excluded from the presidential campaign team of the party.

The ruling party had on October 1 announced the composition of the women's campaign train led by the First Lady, Aisha Buhari; wife of its presidential candidate, Senator Oluremi Tinubu; and the wife its vice presidential candidate, Hajija Nana Shettima.

The campaign list which contained the names of 944 high-profile women and was tagged 'Tinubu-Shettima Women Presidential Campaign Team,' had Mrs Buhari as grand patron, and Tinubu, a three-term senator, as chairman, with the name of Mrs Dolapo missing.

It will be recalled that the Vice President, Prof Yemi Osinbajo, and the Secretary to the Government of the Federation, Boss Mustapha, were not included in the Tinubu-Shettima Presidential Campaign Council, a decision the leadership of the council hinged on the directive of the President, Major General Muhammadu Buhari (ret'd.) to let Osinbajo and Mustapha focus on governance.

But speaking in an interview with our correspondent, the National

Women Leader of the APC, Dr Betta Edu, said the vice president's wife was playing a prominent role in the presidential campaign.

According to her, a name on paper does not translate to work on the ground as those who do the core work do not have their names on the Tinubu-Shettima Women Presidential Campaign Team list.

"Now, the wife of the vice president, she is playing several prominent roles in this campaign. That her name is not on the list does not mean she is not playing a prominent role in the campaign."

"For instance, my name is not in black and white on that list. Of course, I am in the PCC and I am going to be all out there every other day. However, it does not mean I am not playing a role because my name is not there (on the women's presidential campaign team)."

"A name on paper does not translate to work on the ground. Let me state it this way: people who do the core of the campaign don't even have their names on any paper," Edu said.

She added, "So, again, as I told you the campaign team is just a support wing of the main campaign council; it's not a council and different people can play different roles. Indeed, the President had insisted that the vice president and the secretary to the

government of the federation should be allowed to run the government because he cannot be on the road every day campaigning and at

in broad daylight. He said, "They attacked him (Suleman); seven people were killed. The country is not safe. How can people move around with guns on the expressway and they are not detected?"

It is a disturbing situation."

Contacted for his reaction on the matter, the state police spokesperson, Chidi Nwabuzor, confirmed the attack.

He said six persons, including policemen and Suleman's drivers, were

the same time, every other person who is supposed to be providing governance would also be on the road campaigning.

killed, adding that efforts were ongoing to locate the whereabouts of the cleric's domestic worker.

Nwabuzor stated, "The attack is confirmed. It was done around 5pm in Auchi. They travelled from Benin and were already at Auchi when they were given a hot chase and surprisingly they (hoodlums) shot at their vehicles. Three policemen were murdered; two of his drivers were killed; one domestic female worker killed and they are still searching for the other domestic female worker. As we speak, Apostle Johnson Suleman is safe. One of the hoodlums was gunned down and one of the vehicles was recovered."

LASTMA announces 3rd Mainland Bridge closure

Janet Ogundepo

The Lagos State Traffic Management Authority has announced a road closure and traffic diversion on the Third Mainland Bridge from 1pm on Sunday, October 23, 2022.

The development is to aid the Lagos State Emergency Management Agency's recovery exercise of the waste disposal truck that fell off the bridge into the Lagoon on Tuesday.

The agency, in a statement on Friday, explained that the road closure and traffic diversion would only affect motorists moving from Lagos Island to connect the mainland through Iyana Oworonshoki.

It noted that the recovery exercise would not affect motorists moving from the mainland to Lagos Island.

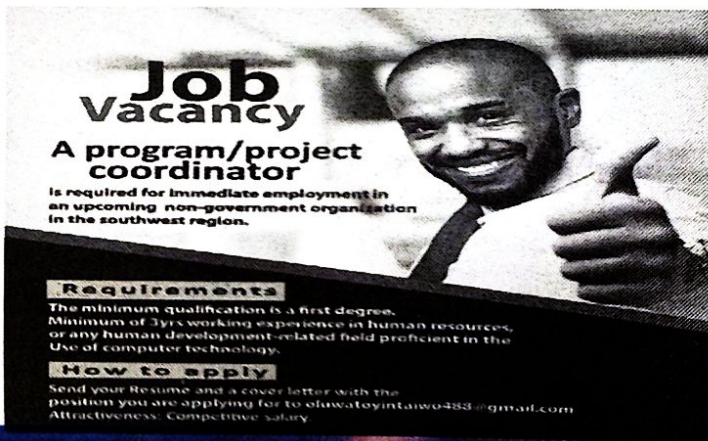
To avoid a delay, the agency advised motorists coming from Victoria Island/Ikoyi/ Lagos Island to make use of the Carter

Bridge and connect "Ijora Olopa (by LAWMA Headquarters) to Eko Bridge to Funsho Williams Avenue (old Western Avenue) to Dorman-Long Bridge to Ikorodu Road through Fadeyi and connect the desired destination, or Carter Bridge to Iddo to Oyingbo to Herbert Macaulay Way to Jibowu to Ikorodu Road and connect the desired destination".

"From Victoria Island/ Ikoyi/

Lagos Island to Mainland (Ebute-Mette), use Adekunla interchange to Herbert Macaulay Way to connect the desired destination," it added.

The traffic agency called for the cooperation and support of road users and motorists, stating that security and traffic management personnel would be deployed to all the alternative routes to ensure the free flow of traffic, safety, and security of all road users.



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