

Dennis Naku, Port Harcourt

Gunmen kill inspector, one



• Rivers CP, Disu

an attack on policemen attached to Operation Sting of the Rivers State Police Command.

"At approximately 2145hrs, while conducting routine stop-and-search at Eliozy flyover, the officers were ambushed by unidentified hoodlums operating in a carton-colored Sienna bus, with fully tinted glasses.

"The registration number of

the vehicle remains unknown at this time.

"The assailants, drove in from the Rumuodumaya axis, opened fire on the police team, resulting in the tragic loss of one Inspector who valiantly gave his life in the line of duty.

"Undeterred, the police team responded with bravery, engaging the attackers and managing to

neutralize one of them with mask on his face, while the others managed to escape, potentially sustaining gunshot wounds.

"The Command has launched a thorough investigation into this despicable act and has already identified the group responsible.

"Rest assured, we will relentlessly pursue these criminals and bring them to justice. No amount of intimidation will hinder our officers' unwavering commitment to safeguarding the lives and property of the citizens."

While noting that such acts of aggression against security forces detrimentally impact the safety and security of society, she emphasised that the command remained resolute in its duty to maintain peace and protect the well-being of the populace.

According to the statement, "The Commissioner of Police, Olatunji Disu, reiterates unequivocally that those who perpetrate violence against

neutralised in fresh Rivers ambush

policemen or any citizen will face the full weight of the law.

"We urge all law-abiding citizens to continue with their daily activities without panic,

as we are determined to uphold our mandate of preserving lives and property in the face of such challenges.

"We extend our deepest

condolences to the family and colleagues of the fallen inspector, and we assure them that his sacrifice will not be in vain. Our resolve to serve and protect

remains unwavering as we stand together against those who seek to disrupt the peace and harmony of our society."

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Retired teachers lament as suspected landgrabbers terrorise Lagos estate

Dayo Oyewo

RESIDENTS of the Teachers' Renaissance Estate at Mosene Village, Isiu in the Ikorodu area of Lagos State have raised the alarm over the activities of suspected landgrabbers in the community.

The residents who are mainly retired teachers from the state civil service told *PUNCH Metro* that the landgrabbers were encroaching on their lands through forceful means.

The culprits were also said to have consistently invaded the community with a band of armed thugs wielding dangerous weapons in a trend said to have lasted for five years.

The Chairman of the

Community Development Area, Olugbenga Oni, told our correspondent on Tuesday that a series of complaints to the police had yielded no result, adding that the langrabbers led by one Yinusa boasted that no authority could stop them.

He said, "All of us in the estate are retired teachers and we bought the expanse of land from Adefowolo, Ewuade and Adeigbe Mosene family of Ikorodu as part of the Union Housing Programme for its members between 2002 and 2004.

"Meanwhile, despite the fact that the land in dispute is currently a subject of litigation at the Ikorodu Judicial High



•Victim

Court, the landgrabbers, through their agents, have been unleashing unimaginable agony and discomfort unabated to the residents and landowners of the estate. They usually invade the estate armed to the teeth with all manner of weapons and physical

Onikan. However, all these civil approaches have not really yielded any positive results. They appear untouchable and keep boasting that no police authority in Lagos could stop them from encroaching on our land. They take pride in intimidating us and that they have gone as far as Abuja on land matters, especially Mr. Yinusa and his cohorts."

Another resident in the area who craved not to be mentioned said a resident identified simply as Mrs Veronica Chukwudili and her husband were physically attacked sometime in September 2023.

The resident said the victims were working on a small farm on their premises when the langrabbers arrived and beat them up.