

# Many feared killed in Abia gunmen attack

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| By Sunday Nwakanma

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Gunmen suspected to be kidnappers, on Saturday morning, launched a deadly assault in Nunya, a community in Isuikwuato Local Government Area of Abia State.

Reports have it that there were casualties, including a driver working with a Chinese construction company.

According to reports, the incident occurred around 8.21 am, when the attackers, numbering about six, reportedly arrived at the site on three motorcycles, wearing military camouflage and armed with assault rifles.

Eyewitnesses alleged that the gunmen stormed a construction site in the area operated by a Chinese engineering firm, opened fire on the workers, and killed one of the drivers. An unconfirmed security operative at the site was also shot dead, while his rifle was allegedly taken by the attackers before they fled.

Information indicated that the assailants might have crossed over from a neighbouring state and were believed to be part of a notorious kidnapping gang. Sources alleged that the attack was led by a suspected criminal with security training, putting into consideration of how they acted.

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It was reported that security operatives responded swiftly, conducting a coordinated operation in the area, while the remains of the deceased driver were evacuated and deposited at a Hospital. Some spent AK-47 ammunition shells were reportedly recovered at the scene.

However, unconfirmed source said, following a tip-off, a suspect believed to have links to the attack was arrested at a hideout and is currently being detained and undergoing interrogation, while efforts to apprehend other fleeing suspects are on.

As of the time of filing this report, *PUNCH Metro* could not receive any official statement from the Abia State Police Command. All efforts to reach the Police Public Relations Officer, Maureen Chinaka, for comments were unsuccessful.

Also, the Army spokesperson in the state could not be reached for comments.

Security operations remain active in the area as authorities intensify efforts to track down the perpetrators and bring them to justice.

**| Sunday Nwakanma**