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## Gunmen abduct 4 passengers

...As police kill 5  
robbers

From **Murphy**  
**Ganagana, Jos**

**GUNMEN** on Sunday kidnapped four passengers in a bus at Oguda Village along Okene/Auchi road in Edo State. The vehicle was hijacked shortly after departing Auchi en route Abuja.

The bus, marked KU 703 XT, was stopped by six armed men in a vehicle, ASB 826 FC, and was diverted into a bush.

It was learnt that one of the lucky passengers who escaped from the scene, identified as Sunday Chiozor, reported the incident to a police patrol team attached to Okene Division of the Kogi State Police Command, which moved swiftly to the scene.

Sources said a thorough search of the surrounding bushes led to the rescue of one of the victims, Ikechukwu Esiobu, an indigene of Enugu State, said to have been abandoned by the suspected kidnappers. Police also recovered the commuter bus and the vehicle used by the hoodlums.

This is coming just as five suspected armed robbers were shot dead on Sunday in Kaduna State by operatives of the Inspector-General of Police Special Intelligence Response Team (SIRT) and Anti-Kidnapping Squad during a shoot-out.

The incident which occurred at about 3.30am, followed a raid by the team on a suspected hide-out of kidnappers and armed bandits along the Kangimi Dam area who allegedly opened fire on sighting the policemen.

Recovered from the scene were two AK47 rifles, 57 rounds of live ammunition and pairs of Army uniform.



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