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Gunmen kill 3 policemen in Bayelsa, Abia

TWO policemen were yesterday shot dead by gunmen along the Otuogidi community in Ogbia Local Government Area of Bayelsa State.

The hoodlums carted away the rifles of their victims, creating apprehension in the state few days to the Saturday governorship election.

It was gathered that the attack on the policemen occurred at a checkpoint close to the Bayelsa State College of Health Technology located in Ogbia.

The attack reportedly left one of the policemen dead on the spot while the second policeman died at an undisclosed hospital.

But the DIG of Police on Bayelsa election, Anthony Ogbizi, assured the people of the state of their safety and promised that the security personnel would ensure level-playing ground for the INEC to conduct a free, fair and credible election.

Similarly, gunmen have killed a policeman and robbed a popular petrol station in Umuahia, the Abia State capital. Daily Sun learnt that the armed men made away with an undisclosed amount of cash and other valuables worth millions of Naira.

According to a source at the filling station, the three armed men came in an ash-colour Honda car, pretending to buy N2000.00 fuel and surrendered everybody, including the security guards. The source explained that with two of them armed with long guns which she could not describe, they led her to the office and collected more than N70, 000.00, being sales for the day, in addition to the N12, 000.00 in her pocket and phones belonging to her colleagues.

She alleged that despite complying with the robbers' instructions, they were thoroughly beaten by the robbers before leaving the petrol station.

The policeman was reported to have been killed by same unidentified gunmen that stormed a hotel along Mission Hill, off the heart of the state capital.

Lamenting over the incident, the general manager of the filling station who chose to speak anonymously after inspecting the facility, disclosed that the incident was the fourth time since this year, stating that they were last robbed in September. He called on the state government and other security agencies to intensify efforts in ensuring that criminals do not run down their businesses.

The state Commissioner of Police, Ene Okon, confirmed the death of the police officer and the attack on the filling station. Okon, who said that the killer of the police sergeant has been identified as Sampson, also hinted that the suspect was the one that equally robbed the petrol station.

"The robber is called great, but his real name is Sampson. He is an indigene of Ossah in Umuahia North Local Government Area of Abia State. He was recently released from the Afara Prison."