

Gunmen kill 3 policemen, injure 2, burn patrol van in Anambra

From **Obinna Odogwu**, Awka

GUNMEN,

yesterday,

2 killed three policemen on duty, in Onitsha, the commercial city of Anambra State.

before setting their patrol vehicle ablaze.

Sources said the incident happened around 9am on

Ukaegbu/Ezeiweka Road, in the commercial hub of the state.

It was not clear what led to

the dastardly act and who the killers were.

This came less than two weeks after the former traditional ruler of Mkpunando community in Aguleri, Anambra East LGA of the state, Chief Alex Edozieuno, and his driver, Chukwuemeka, were killed by yet to be identified persons, along Ezu Bridge, Otuocha.

Edozieuno was one of the 12 monarchs suspended last year by Governor Willie Obiano, for visiting President Muhammadu Buhari, in Abuja, with Prince Arthur Eze, an international oil mogul. He was subsequently dethroned by the governor.

A video trending on social media showed the patrol vehicle of the policemen on fire, even as somebody in police uniform was seen lying on the tarred road.

When contacted, the Police Public Relations Officer in the state, DSP Tochukwu Ikenga, said that he was yet to get the details of what actually transpired.

... Shoot 1 dead, injure 3 Abia students

• Ikpeazu charges police to arrest perpetrators

From **Okey Sampson**, Umuahia

CONTRARY to earlier reports that suspected Fulani herdsmen abducted 10 students of Abia State University, Uturu (ABSU), it has been established that it was actually students of Marist Comprehensive Academy, Uturu, Abia State, that were attacked.

Reports have it that during the attack, one of the students, whose name was given as Edeh Donald, was shot dead, while three of his colleagues were injured.

The deceased student, Edeh, along with his colleagues were said to be returning after visiting a Final Religious Profession of some Marist brothers in

Orlu, Imo State, when they were attacked by the Fulani herdsmen, around Ihube road, in Okigwe LGA.

Principal of the school, Rev (Bro) Joachim Ezetulugo, told journalists, yesterday, that the incident occurred at about 5:30pm, on Saturday.

He said two of Marist brothers work in the school, which led the school management to send the band boys and some members of staff to represent the school at Orlu.

Edeh was reportedly shot in the course of the attack and he died shortly afterwards.

It was gathered that the students and staff had a trouble-free journey from Orlu after a successful outing, until about 11 kilometres away from the school compound, when the suspected Fulani herdsmen

emerged from the forest and opened fire on them, leading to the death of the student.

The injured who were hospitalised were reported to be in stable condition.

Abia command PPRO, SP Geoffrey Ogbonna, could not be reached for comment over the incident.

Meanwhile, Abia State Governor, Okezie Ikpeazu, has directed the state Commissioner of Police, Mrs Janet Agbede, 'to, as a matter of urgency, liaise with her counterpart in Imo State to swiftly arrest the hoodlums and bring them to justice'.

In a statement by the Commissioner for Information, Chief John Okiyi-Kalu,

said: "Abia State Government has also confirmed from the management of Marist Comprehensive Academy, Uturu, that the three students who sustained injuries from the attack have been treated and discharged, while the parents of Master Ede Donald have been contacted.

"We commiserate with parents of the deceased, students, staff and management of Marist Comprehensive Academy, Uturu, over this unfortunate incident."

Okiyi-Kalu said the earlier report that 10 students of ABSU were abducted was false, adding that the management of the institution, including the Vice Chancellor, Prof Maxwell Ogbulu, has confirmed no student of the institution was abducted.



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