

## Gunmen kidnap DPO, three policemen

September 5, 2017 Idris Salisu and Uchenna Inya



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## Policeman commits suicide in Ebonyi

Gunmen believed to be cattle rustlers yesterday abducted the Divisional Police Officer (DPO) in charge of Keta Divisional Police Station in Tsafe Local Government Area of Zamfara State.

The bandits also kidnapped three policemen and carted away weapons belonging to the police station. They later killed two civilians. This came as a policeman in Ebonyi State, Donatus Oyibe, committed suicide in Abakaliki, the state capital. A resident of Kwarin Ganuwa village, Malam Abdullahi, told our correspondent that he narrowly escaped from the hands of the gunmen.

Abdullahi said about 1.30p.m. close to 100 well-armed men invaded Kwarin Ganuwa town. He explained that the bandits later proceeded to Keta where they kidnapped the DPO and three of his men.

Abdullahi added that the gunmen raided the house of the district head of Kwarin Ganuwa in an attempt to kidnap him. But when they did not see the district head, they kidnapped one person and GSM handsets from the people of the town.

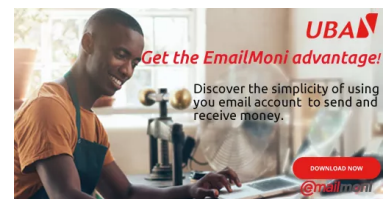
Another witness, Ibrahim Musa, a resident of Keta town, said when the bandits invaded the town, they went straight to the police station and started shooting sporadically.

According to him, they disarmed all the policemen on duty and carted away most of the weapons in the station.



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Musa, who also escaped from the bandits, added that two persons who refused to hand over their handsets were killed. At the time of filing this report, security men, including soldiers in about 10 vehicles, had been deployed to rescue the DPO and the three policemen.

When contacted on the phone, the state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), DSP Shehu Muhammed, said he would not speak on the incident until he got the details from the police commissioner.

Muhammed promised to brief our correspondent later. He, however, did not call at press time. Meanwhile, Oyibe, a native of Ndiagu Ishieke in Ebonyi Local Government Area of Ebonyi State, reportedly jumped inside a well on Sunday night when he went to fetch water.

Sources said his death might not be unconnected with his recent transfer to Borno State. The sources said Oyibe's transfer letter was released to him on August 28.

His daughter, Ukamaka, said Oyibe took a bucket to fetch water from the well but was not seen for several hours.

This, she said, caused suspicion which made her to begin to search for him. She said: "My father took a bucket and said that he was going to fetch water from our well on Sunday night. But after a while, we started looking for him.

I went to the well and saw his bucket. When I looked inside the well, I discovered that he had died." When contacted, the state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Loveth Ogah, said she was not aware of the development but promised to speak on the development when confirmed.




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