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LOKOJA

# One die, as gunmen attack Kogi police station

**G**unmen on Sunday night attacked the Okene Area Command Headquarters of the Nigeria Police Force in Kogi State.

The gunmen were said to have launched the attack on the police formation with sporadic gunshots and explosives chanting Allahu Akbar (God Is Great), at midnight on Sunday.

The spokesman of the state Police Command, William Aya, who confirmed the attack, in a statement, however, said personnel on duty repelled the attackers and gunned down one of them.

Aya in the statement said the state Commissioner of Police (CP) has ordered the immediate deployment of re-enforcement consisting of Counter-Terrorism Units, Police Mobile Force, Intelligence team as well as Quick Response Unit along with the military and other security forces, to Okene and environs.

He said the team has been mandated to track and arrest the gun-

men so that they can be made to face justice.

The statement quoted the CP as assuring law-abiding citizens of the state of their safety, saying there is no cause for alarm.

The CP further said that the command in synergy with other security agencies in the state will ensure a safe and secure environment for all to go about their lawful activities.

In another twist to this, the Kogi State government said local hunters, men of the Kogi State Vigilance Service, in collaboration with other security operatives foiled the attack. According to a government statement signed by the state Commissioner for Information and Communication, Kingsley Fanwo, the gunmen were over 30 in number.

The statement added that the counter-attack was coordinated by the chairmen of Okene Local Government Area in Kogi Central and the Special Adviser on Security to the Governor in charge of Kogi Central.

## Fear grips Ojo community as hoodlums turn bus-stop to drug, robbers den

**S**ome residents of Agric community in Ojo Local Gov-

that their bus stops were not secured.

They said that the armed robbers do come out from the shanties they

The statement reads, "The Kogi State government wishes to report that the Okene Area Command of the Nigerian Police Force was attacked by gunmen numbering over 30 in the late hours of Sunday, February 6, 2022.

"However, they were shown the strength and efficacy of the Kogi security architecture as the local hunters, men of the State Vigilante Service collaborated with other security operatives to spontaneously foiled the attack.

"The superior firepower of the combined security network of the state ensured one of them was gunned down immediately while others ran away with various degrees of gunshot wounds. Two of their motorcycles were recovered as well as various arms and ammunition. Also, explosives meant to destroy the command were immediately detonated by experts.

"The onslaught against the gunmen was coordinated by the Executive Chairmen of Okene Local Government Area in Kogi Central and the SSA on Security to the Governor in charge of Kogi Central.

"This is the second time in less than two months that Kogi proved impregnable to criminals as tens of



Two motor bikes seized from the attackers

them lost their lives in the attack on Yagba West LGA of the state last December.

"The Executive Governor of the State, Alhaji Yahaya Bello, is renowned for stating that, 'the criminals will come in their numbers, but go back in their zeros'. The gunmen have been thoroughly given the Kogi treat.

"No innocent live was lost, instead, the criminals were the ones that received gun wounds and lost one of them on the spot.

"We call on traditional medical homes and other medical facilities to report anyone with gun wounds to the nearest security formation as our local hunters are giving them a run for their money in the bush right now. We shall keep you updated on developments.

"The Governor, His Excellency, Alhaji Yahaya Bello, wishes to assure all Kogites and residents of the state that he will do everything humanly possible to secure their lives and property."

Agunike set Akerke Palace ablaze