4 Police escorts killed as Ohakim escapes

Steve Uzoechi OWERRI

A yet-to-be-ascertained assailants yesterday evening attacked the convoy of former Imo State Governor Ikedi Ohakim, leaving four of his police escorts dead.

The former governor who was being driven in his bulletproof Sports Utility Vehicle (SUV) escaped by the whiskers.

Our correspondent gathered that the hoodlums had attacked the lead vehicle first leading to blocking and slowing down the convoy, but for the clever manoeuvring of the driver of the ex-governor, he may have been successfully blocked and trapped by the hoodlum.

The driver of the former governor eventually made good his escape, as the vicious attackers descended on the rest of the convoy who did not get a fighting chance.

Ohakim, governor of Imo state between 2007 and 2011 was attacked at Oriagu in the Ehime Mbano Local Council Area of the state on his way back home after visiting friends.

The former governor's SUV, our correspondent learnt, was riding with two of his sons when the hoodlums struck.

One of the locals who craved anonymity recounted what he witnessed.

He said: "The incident happened in a flash and it was obvious that Ohakim was their target. They made great effort to block off his SUV and trap him, but for the courage and skillful manoeuvring of his driver."

Ohakim, who later spoke on phone about the ugly experience, seemed thoroughly shaken by the attack.