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Gunman Killed as Hostility Resumes in Okene

19 Aug 2012

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Gunmen

Shola Oyeyipo in Lokoja

Coming barely two weeks after the attack on the Deeper Life Bible Church which left 20 worshippers and two soldiers dead in Okene , Kogi State, hostility resumed again yesterday as gunmen engaged security agents in the town in over three hours of exchange of fire.

THISDAY gathered that after efforts by security operatives to maintain peace in the town were yielding results, unidentified gunmen attacked a police patrol team at Idare area of the town.

The policemen were said to have arrived at an hideout of the gunmen when the attack took place. One of the attackers was shot dead the during shootout.

The Kogi State Commissioner of Police, Alhaji Mohammed Musa Katsina, who confirmed the incident, said the attack was carried out by suspected armed robbers. According to him, "When my men stormed their hideout, the robbers opened fire on them but they confronted them and handled the situation. Four suspects were arrested. One of them was gunned down during the operation. We also recovered weapons from the suspects."

Items recovered at the hide-out included rocket launcher, guns and Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs). The gun duel, which lasted over three hours, caused a lot of panic that paralysed all activities while it lasted.

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