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## Police kill 4 suspected robbers in Abia - It's an extra-judicial killing - Relations

Biola Azeez, Umuahia - 21.10.2009

MOBILE policemen attached to MOPOL 55 Base in Abia State, on Monday, killed four occupants of a Mitsubishi Pajero Jeep with registration number AJ 501 EZA, an attack residents and family members of the deceased claimed was extra-judicial killing.

Speaking with the Nigerian Tribune in Umuahia, on Tuesday, a relation of the deceased, Chimaobi Onuegbu, said the deceased, including a police officer attached to his hotel, Eki Imade, from Edo State and three of his relatives, were killed around 3.30 p.m by the police.

Chimaobi, a proprietor of Benny Aris, an hotel in Umuahia, said the deceased were on their way to Aba, when the incident happened, adding that the vehicle was undergoing repair works after an accident on Aba-Port Harcourt expressway.

But the police in Umuahia, on Monday, through the state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Ali Okechukwu, displayed bodies of the four men at its headquarters, claiming that they were robbers.

Okechukwu said the deceased allegedly shot at policemen at Isiala-Ngwa junction, adding that none of them was a police officer.

The police spokesperson said the occupants of the jeep refused the order to stop and disclose their identities, rather they opened fire on the police who killed them in a reprisal attack.

He also claimed that police recovered items such as AK 47 rifle with inscription of Central Police Station (CPS), Umuahia, spent bullet shell and handsets, adding that police would carry out further investigations to unravel reasons behind the attack.

But Chimaobi said MOPOL 55 at Nsulu Games Village killed his relatives and they did not recover any money from the deceased whom he said had N100,000 on them with which they were to use in repairing the car in Aba.