2 commissioners escape death as gunmen kill 1 in Ebonyi

Written by Clement Oko Nnachi, Abakaliki Tuesday, 11 September 2012

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Two commissioners and an adviser to the Ebonyi State governor, Chief Martin Elechi, on Monday, narrowly escaped assassination when unknown gunmen stormed a petrol station where they were on queue to buy fuel.

The government officials were on their way to Ishiagu, in Ivo Local Government Area of the state for the conduct of elections into the executive positions of the community when the attack occurred.

However, a middle-aged man was shot dead by the rampaging hoodlums, who unleashed terror on motorists who were at the fuel station at the time of the incident.

An eyewitness, who preferred anonymity, told the Nigerian Tribune that the gunmen stormed the petrol station with two motorcycles and shot sporadically at a Toyota Hilux van, with registration number BDG 899 AG.

However, one of the gunmen was shot dead by a combined team of military and police personnel while the others escaped.

Investigations by the Nigerian Tribune revealed that the victim was an aide to the special adviser to the state governor on security.

Meanwhile, workers of Ebonyi State Government House were thrown into mourning when the corpse of the middle aged man was brought to the Government House amid wailing by sympathisers.

Addressing the workers, the Secretary to the Ebonyi State Government, Chief Fidelis Mbam, assured the workers that the government would unravel the remote and immediate cause of the assassination, assuring that the situation was under control.

Confirming the incident, the Ebonyi State Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), ASP Sylvester Igbo, said that the police killed one of the robbers after pursuing them to a village within the vicinity of the state capital.

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