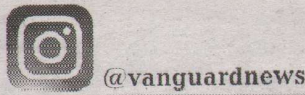
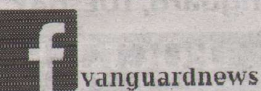


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Drug lords kill 4 NDLEA officials in Ondo

By Dayo Johnson

AKURE—SUSPECTED drug dealers reportedly shot dead four officials of Ondo State Command of Nigeria Drug Law Enforcement Agency, NDLEA, who were on official duty.

The deceased include ASN II Abduljalad Mohammed, SNA Wellington Emmanuel, CAN Magaji Aliu and Mohammed Iliyasu.

Vanguard gathered that five officials of the command were on a motorised patrol operation along the Sobe-Ifon Highway in Ose council area of the state on Sunday, when they were attacked.

Reports had it that the killers, who hid two AK-47 rifles under their clothes instead of stopping when flagged down by the officials at a checkpoint along Ikaro, Sabo road, opened fire on four of the five officials, killing them on the spot.

Not done yet, the killers equally set ablaze the command's Toyota Hilux patrol vehicle.

One of the officials, who escaped with several bullet wounds, is at present on admission at an undisclosed hospital.

Sources within the command said: "The dead bodies of the NDLEA officials were found by some farmers



The NDLEA patrol van the killers set ablaze.

on their way from the farm along the Ikaro checkpoint.

"The killers, after ascertaining that the officials were dead, dispossessed them of their operational guns."

Confirming the incident, the state commander of the agency, Haruna Dagara, who described the killing as gruesome, said it was an intentional killing by drug dealers in the area.

Dagara, who vowed that his officers would not be deterred by the ugly incident, said the killers came on a motorcycle and shot his men at close range with AK-47 rifles that were concealed under their clothes.

According to him, "four of the five officials that were on duty were killed, while one escaped.

"Our men have gone to

evacuate the corpses from the scene and other para-military agencies are on ground."

He said the command and other sister-agencies are working to get to the root of the matter and bring the killers to book.

Dagara added that some security measures had been put in place since the gruesome murder took place.

Commercial driver docked for stealing exhibits