

Sit at home: Gunmen kill 5 security operatives, injure PG in Anambra, Abia

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AWKA— Gunmen, who were enforcing the Monday sit-at-home in Anambra State, have killed four people and injured the President General of Abatete, Mr. Chimame Ezigbo.

In Abia, gunmen also killed a policeman and injured another following an attack on their convoy at Ubakala in Umuahia South council area, Abia State.

Three of the Anambra victims were members of Abatete Vigilante Service who were with the PG at the time of the incident, while the fourth victim was killed at Ukpo junction in Dunukofia local government area.

The simultaneous attacks on the two communities came at a time when it was thought that the issue of Monday's sit-at-

home was dying down in the state.

The two incidents, which happened between 8 am and 10 am in the two communities forced people who were already out for their businesses, to return home immediately.

An eye witness at Abatete said Chimame Ezigbo was shot in the head and was rushed to a nearby hospital, while the three members of the community's vigilante who were with him died on the spot and their bodies were still on the scene of the incident.

"We are praying for the recovery, of our PG. He became unconscious when the bullets hit his head and we are wondering why he should be the target of the gunmen. This is a man who has managed to keep peace in Abatete. There is confusion in our town now", the eyewitness said.

In the other incident at Ukpo, the victim was said to be a motorcycle rider who doubled as

a member of the town's vigilante outfit.

"The attackers were shooting indiscriminately and the okada rider was hit. I can't tell if he was targeted", an eyewitness in the area said.

A police source said investigation into the attacks had already begun, adding that efforts were on to apprehend the perpetrators.

Gunmen kill policeman, injure another in Abia

This is happening four days after some yet-to-be-identified gunmen also killed two soldiers at a checkpoint in Umuopara Umuahia, near the Abia- Imo border.

The policemen said to be attached to one of the federal lawmakers in the state, were travelling at about 9 pm when the gunmen attacked their convoy at

Ubakala. But the lawmaker was not in the convoy at the time of the attack.

Police sources told Vanguard that the gunmen dressed in black, and wearing police jackets had blocked the convoy which had the two policemen and a driver with a Toyota Corolla car.

The gunmen opened fire on the policemen after they identified themselves as police officers.

In the ensuing gunfire, a policeman was killed, while the other was injured and is feared dead.

The source added that the gunmen fled the scene as policemen from nearby Ubakala Division responded with gunfire.

The Abia State Police Command which confirmed the incident said it has launched manhunt for the killers of the policeman.