

Gulu Police commander dropped

BY CHRIS KIWAWULO

The Gulu District Police commander (DPC), Joseph Ayiki, 30, who was shot and injured by unknown people as he allegedly climbed a fence in Gulu town at 3:00am on Thursday, has been dropped.

Ayiki has since been replaced by the assistant superintendent of Police, John Bosco Nyankol, who has been the Officer in Charge (OC) of Gulu central police station.

According to a communication from the Aswa River regional Police commander, Wilber Wanyama, Ayiki has been transferred to the professional standards unit, Aswa region headquarters in Gulu pending investigations.

In a message dated November 30, Wanyama also appointed inspector of Police Moses Ogwang, the acting OC operations Gulu central police station, as the acting OC Gulu Central Police station.



Joseph Ayiki

"Assistant Inspector of Police Peter Susu, who has been OC Palaro Police Post is appointed acting OC operation Gulu central police station," the message, said the transfers take immediate effect.

Ayiki had hardly spent three months in the office after replacing Martin Okoyo, who was sent for further training.

Ayiki was the 10th DPC for Gulu central police station since 2006.

■ WHAT HAPPENED

Reports indicate that Ayiki, who was wearing civilian clothes and had no escorts, was shot in the right leg near Through Art Keep Smiling centre, about 400 metres away from the Gulu resident district commissioner's residence.

He was rushed to Gulu Hospital before he was taken to Gulu Imaging Centre, a private facility, for an X-ray on his injured knee at around 9:00am.

Ayiki, who according to witnesses lost a lot of blood, was transferred to St. Mary's Lacor Hospital in Gulu.

According to Dr. Desmond Drale, a radiographer at Gulu Imaging Centre, Ayiki suffered a severe fracture caused by a bullet that penetrated his bone. He, however, said Ayiki might not need an operation since the knee was not shattered.

Earlier, Aswa River regional Police spokesperson, Patrick Okema, said they were yet to establish the circumstances surrounding the shooting, but had arrested one suspect only identified as Olanya, a private security guard.

Olanya, who is attached to Exposs Private Security Company, was by yesterday still detained at Gulu central police station, as they wait to hear from Ayiki when he recovers.

It is said Olanya is one of the people who carried Ayiki to the police station after he was shot.

"As per now, we cannot tell who shot Ayiki and why," Okema said.

The shooting follows the brutal murder of former Gulu municipal council clerk, John Oala, in May this year.