

2 Die In Imo Explosion

BY EMMANUEL MGBEAHURIKE, Owerri

The Imo State Police Command has revealed that two persons, Hyginus Akalonu and Victor Egwu, have died following injuries sustained during an explosion at Nekede Road, Owerri west local government area of the state.

A statement by the Police Public Relations Officer, Henry Okoye, said they have commenced an investigation into the explosion that occurred on Thursday night inside a large drainage channel located at No. 1 Old Nekede Road in Owerri West local government area.

“Following the report, operatives of the Command immediately mobilised to the scene, cordoned off the area, and deployed the Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Unit to secure and thoroughly sweep the scene. The area has since been declared safe.

“Preliminary investigation indicates that the two suspects, who were inside the large drainage channel at the time of the explosion, are suspected scrap metal scavengers identified as Hyginus Akalonu, 32, of Umulumu, Ehime Mbano local government area, Imo State, and Victor Egwu, 22, of Agba, Ishielu local government area, Ebonyi State.