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Ebonyi: Soldier, policeman, 5 robbers die in gun battle

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KENNETH OFOMA, *Abakaliki*

A soldier and a policeman who were members of joint military/police patrol team were on Tuesday gunned down during a gun battle with armed robbers at Oso-Edda junction in Afikpo south local government area of Ebonyi State along Afikpo-Okigwe Express Road.

The Ebonyi State Police Commissioner, Mr. Adeniji Adeola who confirmed the incident stated that five of the robbers were killed while one was arrested alive.

He assured residents of state of the determination of the state command of the Nigerian Police to secure their lives and properties.

Meanwhile an eye witness who spoke to our reporter on condition of anonymity stated that the robbers were cruising in a Siena car after a successful operation at Ugep in neighbouring Cross River State when they were confronted by a joint military/police patrol at the junction after receiving a distress call from their colleagues.

The witness said on sighting the patrol team, the robbers opened fire killing the soldier and the policeman while two of the robbers were killed while others escaped into the bush.

According to the eyewitness, youths of the community had to mobilize to hunt for those who escaped into the bush.

According to him; "at about 9am Tuesday, we heard gunshots, the shooting were so heavy that there was serious apprehension in the whole of Oso Edda. Shortly after the gunshots, we went to the scene of the incident only to find out that armed robbers and a combined team of Police and Soldiers exchanged gun fire".

"At the scene, two of the security agents were gunned down by the armed robbers, one Policeman and a soldier, two of the armed robbers were also killed during the gun duel. The armed robbers we learnt robbed at Ugep in Cross River State and were escaping through Amasiri-Okigwe road before the Police alerted those at the Oso Eddah junction".

"Immediately they got to the junction and sighted the security agents, they opened fire on them but during the gun duel, two of them were killed. Some of the robbers escaped into the bush, we had to mobilize the youths immediately and combed the bush to track those who escaped to the bush".

The eyewitness further stated that during the search, two members of the gang were arrested in the bush by the youths adding that those arrested by the youths were taken to the Police Command Afikpo Division.

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Okorochoa,continue deceiving yourself.Stooge.My friend will u bring those Ibo people back sharply!
Submitted by Axeman777 on 27 January 2012