

Boy drowns in well while playing

FRANCIS IGATA, Enugu

TRAGEDY struck at Agbani, Nkanu in Enugu State at about 1pm yesterday when a four-year-old boy fell into a well dug in his compound while playing.

It was gathered that the little boy, Oluebube Nwobodo, a nephew to one

Emmanuel Agu of Uzam Akpawfu, was said to have drowned immediately the incident occurred.

Investigations into the circumstances surrounding the incident has commenced in order to unravel the mystery behind his sudden demise.

It was gathered that the

mother, Ngozi Agu, was engrossed in laundry activity before the unfortunate incident happened.

Fielding questions from newsmen, the Police Public Relations Officer of Enugu State command who confirmed the incident, admonished parents and guardians to be alive to their

responsibilities in looking after their wards while undertaking any pursuit whatsoever.

He bemoaned a situation where parents have jettisoned their role as role models to the detriment of their wards.

Meanwhile, the body of the deceased has been deposited at the General Hospital, Agbani for post mortem examination.

Soldiers kill gunman involved in attack of Ebonyi LG boss

AUGUSTINE ANIOKE, Abakaliki

SOLDIERS of the Abakaliki Military Cantonment have killed an armed gunman during a shoot-out with an armed gang suspected to be the group that attacked the Chairman of Ezza North local government area of Ebonyi State, Hon Ikeuwa Omebe, at the weekend.

The state Commissioner of Police (CP), Adeola Adeniji, who confirmed the incident to *Daily Champion* yesterday, said the gunmen opened fire on sighting the soldiers who were on their regular patrol along the Enugu-Abakaliki expressway which they (soldiers) replied, leading to an exchange of gunshots.

He said an AK-47 assault rifle was recovered from the dead robber, while members of his gang escaped into the nearby forest.

The CP, therefore, appealed to members of the public to give the police useful information that will lead to the capture of the rest of the gang members terrorising the area for some time now.

The incident took place near the Ukwuachi axis of the expressway close to the area where the robbers staged their attack of the chairman recently while he was returning from a friend's traditional wedding in Ohaukwu local government area of the state.

Daily Champion investigations revealed that the council chairman was shot by gunmen in two motorcycles who had trailed him from the venue of the wedding and when they got close to Ukwuachi axis on the expressway, they overtook his car and forced him to stop.

According to the source, who pleaded anonymity, the council boss who was driving himself in his Toyota Avensis car, noted that the incident took place at about 9pm, adding that the gunmen shot the council boss at the back while the Leader of the Legislative Council was also shot at the back and buttocks.

"The Chairman of Ezza North Local Government Area of Ebonyi State was attacked by unknown gunmen along the Ukwuachi axis of the Enugu-Abakaliki Express road. I was shot at the back and buttocks. The Council Boss one of the victim who confirmed the incident."

"The Council boss informed me that the gunmen attacked them along the Enugu Abakaliki Express road while they were returning from a traditional marriage in Ohaukwu Local Government Area of the state. He said that immediately they got to Ukwuachi, the gunmen blocked their car and demanded for some money."

Insecurity still problem in Imo—Okorocho

EMEKA IHIEGBULEM, Owerri

IMO State Governor Rochas Okorocho has said the issue



INFERNO... Scene of fire incident where trucks were burnt along the Enugu-Abakaliki Expressway yesterday.

5 nabbed in Ebonyi for vandalising NITEL cables

Another person for using gov's name to dupe govt officials

AUGUSTINE ANIOKE, Abakaliki

OPERATIVES of the State Security Services, SSS, yesterday arrested a five-man gang that specialises in vandalising and stealing

command in the wee hours of yesterday arrested a 5 five armed gang which allegedly specialises in vandalises cables belonging to the Nigerian Telecommunications company, NITEL.

nabbed. So, around 0005 hrs or 5 minutes after 12, we laid siege and while they were trying to remove the cables at NITEL headquarters in Abakaliki, we arrested them. They have confessed to the crimes."

Mbonu, said the suspect had used the cloned governor's GSM number to send out text messages to about 10 top government officials in the state posing as the governor and telling them to pay N300,000 into his (Mbonu's) Ecobank account number, warning them to keep it confidential.