

# Imo Attacks: IPOB Building Armoury To Actualise Biafra – Ex-AIG

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By **Our Reporters**

Tue Apr 06 2021



**Members of the outlawed Indigenous People of Biafra (IPOB) are deliberately attacking security formations in the South East to steal weapons in order to fight for the actualisation of the Biafra Republic, experts and security operatives have said.**

Also, a human rights lawyer, Femi Falana, has described the assault on the Nigerian Correctional Service (NCS) and the police headquarters in Imo State as a sign of state failure, saying the federal government allowed non-state actors to take charge.

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Credible sources said the IPOB members who stormed Owerri, the Imo State capital in the early hours of Monday, and launched multiple attacks, started their journey from Onitsha in Anambra State and drove for over two hours at night.

It was learnt that the gunmen met resistance from soldiers at Ukworji along Onitsha-Owerri Express Way but overpowered the security operatives.

Two soldiers were said to have been killed while their vehicles were burnt by the assailants.



From left: GOC 82 Div Nigerian Army, Maj Gen Taoreed Lagbaja; Governor Hope Uzodimma of Imo State and Deputy Senate President, Senator Ovie Omo Agege addressing newsmen after inspecting the level of damage at the state Police headquarters, Owerri

Another source said a high level security signal was ignored by the South-East governors, including the commissioners of police in the five states in the region.

“There was a signal from Abuja to the governors of Imo, Ebonyi, Anambra, Enugu and Abia States.

“The commissioners of police in the states were also informed that members of the outlawed IPOB and their so-called Eastern Security Network (ESN) were planning to launch attacks.

“I think the leaders there must share part of the blame because they were told from Abuja that the miscreants would target security formations in order to get arms,” he said.

It was gathered that the assailants had made fruitless attempts to take over the Imo State Government House but were resisted.

Governor Hope Uzodimma of Imo State has condemned the attacks, saying the primary intendment of the IPOB members was to create fears in the minds of the

people and at the same time strive to secure the release of their fellow criminals in custody.