

2 Policemen, 3 Others Killed In Enugu — Police

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Tue, 7 May 2024 6:40:00 WAT



The Enugu State Police Command has said two policemen and three members of the Neighbourhood Watch were killed during a crisis that erupted in Iggah community, Uzo-Uwani LGA of Enugu State last Friday.

It also said three suspects believed to be the masterminds behind the violence have been apprehended, with a manhunt underway for more suspects.

According to a statement by the Enugu State Police Command's spokesman, DSP Daniel Ndukwe, the crisis was instigated by criminal elements harboured within the Igga community.

Ndukwe outlined the events leading to the attack, stating that a combined security team protecting visiting investors from Lagos, who were on a tour of a proposed agricultural investment site in the area, was attacked by a large group of criminals.

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He said as a result, two policemen, a neighbourhood watch personnel and three members of the investor team lost their lives.

He added that following an extensive investigation and search operation, the bodies of the slain personnel were discovered in the forest on May 4, 2024.

Meanwhile, Enugu State governor, Dr Peter Mbah, on Monday launched a coordinated crackdown on assailants and hoodlums in Uzo Uwani LGA in a bid to expel criminals from the area and bolster the safety and security of residents.

Governor Mbah issued a stern warning against individuals or groups resorting to self-help measures, emphasising that anyone advocating or engaging in such actions would face the full force of the law.

He underscored his administration's commitment to upholding civilised and legal norms, emphasising that vigilantism would not be tolerated.

During an impromptu visit to both Adani and Igga communities in Uzo Uwani LGA, Governor Mbah announced that his government had extended scholarships and job opportunities to the children and spouses of two slain police officers and three Neighbourhood Watch operatives.

He pledged that the ongoing operations, involving joint efforts from security agencies such as the police, Department of State Services (DSS), military and Neighbourhood Watch groups, would persist until the area is completely purged of criminal elements.

He urged perpetrators of heinous crimes to surrender themselves or face legal consequences.