

# Soldiers kill nine in Adamawa shoot-out Enugu mob murders policeman

From Lawrence Njoku (Enugu) and Emmanuel Tarfa (Yola)

**I**N a cross-fire that lasted nearly four hours, soldiers belonging to the Quick Response Squad of the 23 Army Brigade, Yola, Adamawa State, yesterday engaged a group of gunmen holed up in a house at the Jambutu area of Yola.

At the end of the shoot-out, witnesses said nine of the gunmen were killed, a number the Army disputed saying only two casualties were recorded in the fire-fight.

In another incident, a policeman attached to the Ogbede Police Station, Igbo Etiti Local

Council, Enugu State, was on Sunday night beaten to death by an angry mob at the Ogbede Junction along the Enugu Makurdi expressway.

His colleague, who survived the mob attack, has been admitted at Bishop Shanahan Hospital, Nsukka Urban.

*The Guardian* gathered that the mob action was a reprisal attack over the alleged killing of a villager by the dead policeman.

According to a witness, trouble started when the dead policeman and his colleagues were invited to the scene of a fight to arrest one of the parties who had inflicted grave injury on his opponent but he resisted arrest.

The witness said the ensuing commotion attracted a crowd that joined the offender to resist arrest and in the process, the dead policeman allegedly shot and killed another man ostensibly in self-defence.

The mob immediately descended on the trigger-happy cop and lynched him to death while his colleague was beaten into a pulp.

Enugu Police Command Public Relations Officer, Ebele Amarizu, confirmed the incident.

When *The Guardian* visited Bishop Shanahan Hospital where the injured policeman was receiving treatment, two policemen on guard there prevented access to him.

The names of the surviving policeman and the dead civilian could not be ascertained at press time.

Eyewitnesses told *The Guardian* that the Adamawa shoot-out broke out at about 3.00 a.m. and lasted till 6.30 a.m. with the residents running into the bush for safety.

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