

Gunmen kill DPO in fresh attack in Uzodimma's hometown

From Charles Ogugbuaja, Owerri

A DIVISIONAL Police Officer (DPO), Fatmann Dooiyo was reportedly killed in a gun battle between bandits and the police at Omuma, Oru East, hometown of Imo State Governor, Hope Uzodimma. The Guardian learnt that six of the attackers, who arrived in the area in three vehicles, with arms, were killed, while 11 bandits were arrested by the police.

Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), CSP Michael Abattam, who confirmed the incident, disclosed that the Area Commander of Omuma Area Command, ACP Benjamin Abang, led the operation.

He said: "On 26/7/2021 about 1620 hours, armed bandits in convoy of three vehicles were repelled in Omuma Town in Oru East Local Government Area of Imo State.

"According to the Area Commander, ACP Benjamin Abang of Omuma Area Command, who stated that, based on information received that the bandits were sighted moving in convoy into Omuma Town, he immediately alerted the tactical team of the Command who swung into action, ambushed and launched a surprise attack on the convoy of the bandits which resulted

to neutralising six of the bandits while, eleven (11) of them were arrested to the station. Unfortunately, the Divisional Police Officer, CSP Fatmann Dooiyor paid the supreme price.

"The team later recovered the three vehicles abandoned by the bandits to the station, which includes, two Toyota Highlander SUV vehicles with registration numbers Abia MBL 517 AT and LAGOS JJJ 984 EL respectively, and a milk colour unregistered Lexus Jeep to the station."

According to him, the tactical team is combing the bush to arrest more bandits: "Presently, the Command's tactical team and Special forces led by ACP Evans E.Shem are combing the bush for possible arrest of the bandits that fled into the bush.

"Meanwhile, Imo State Commissioner of Police, Abutu Yaro, has warned bandits with a penchant for sporadic incursion from neighbouring states, to keep off the state or face dire consequences," he concluded.

Recall that a few weeks ago, Uzodimma's home was invaded by gunmen, and vehicles parked inside the premises were razed. Some security operatives were also killed in the incident.