Again, Unknown Gunmen Kill Five Policemen In Enugu

From Lawrence Njoku, Enugu

TENSION and fear again ■ gripped Enugu State residents, yesterday, as unknown gunmen returned to the streets, killing five policemen at a checkpoint while several others sustained injuries. The incident, which was the second in the last two days, occurred at a checkpoint at Amodu, Enugu South Council. On Thursday last week, three policemen were killed and their rifles taken at a checkpoint on Timber Road. near Cashew Bus stop, Maryland, Enugu by unknown gunmen. The same evening, the head of the Meniru axis Neighbourhood Watch, Ogbonna Onovo, was killed by gunmen in his residence.

The Guardian gathered that the unknown gunmen had stormed the Amodu Police Check point in a Serene bus, opening fire on the policemen on the duty. Four of the Police officers on duty died on the spot, while the other officer, who sustained gunshot wounds, died attempting to escape to safety.

Enugu Police Public Relations

Officer, Daniel Ndukwu, did not pick several calls on his mobile phone, yesterday. But a competent Police source, confirmed to *The Guardian* on condition of anonymity that four officers died at the scene of the incident.

He attributed the rate of attacks on police checkpoints to boys looking for arms to use in the coming elections, adding that since they now attack officers at checkpoints, "We will restrategize to know the best way to handle these attacks. We will not give up on the challenge."

He revealed that the Commissioner of Police had led a joint team of police officers and military to the area to ascertain the actual state of things.

There was massive road blockade along the Amodu Road linking Agbani and other parts of the state yesterday, as a reinforced team of police and Army personnel cordoned off the area, while attempting to remove the corpses of the felled police officers and trailing the rest of the team, said to have escaped during the attack.