

## The MetroSection

## Police parade suspected cultists, others in Anambra

From Uzoma Nzeagwu, Awka

THE police in Anambra State, yesterday, paraded nine suspects for various crimes committed across the state.

Parading the suspects in Awka, the state Commissioner of Police (CP), Echeng Echeng, said additional six suspects including a native doctor, identified during the study of a trending video by police operatives were arrested for their involvement in inflicting jungle justice on a lady over the death of her husband at Aguleri, Anambra East Local Council of the state.

He said investigation revealed that the deceased, Mr. Udorji Egwatu, had been sick for some time when his brother, Mr. Udolor took him to Anthony, a native doctor.

"Anthony confessed to have taken the deceased on some spiritual cleansing and administered on him some herbs before he died. It was Anthony, who allegedly told the family of the deceased that his death was as a result of the wife's infidelity.

"We also want to use this opportunity to advise the public to stop sharing the video. This will help to protect the dignity of the woman. I wish to assure you that no stone shall be left unturned in the ongoing investigation. Justice shall be served," the CP noted.

He stressed that police operatives working in synergy with important stakeholders in the security sector also arrested members of cultists terrorising the state.

He said: "Many of you are aware of the menace of cultism in the state, particu-



CP Echeng

larly in Awka and environs. You will recall that on December 14, 2021, cultists attacked the Chairman of Tricycle Owners Association in broad daylight near Nnamdi Azikiwe University (UNIZIK) junction, Awka.

"Two police officers who were in the vicinity were killed and their two AK 47 rifles carted away.

"Again on February 26, the same cult gang attacked a funeral party at Ebenebe in Awka North Local Council, killing several mourners.

"In the past two weeks several members of the gang were arrested by police oper-

atives working in synergy with important stakeholders in the security sector.

"On Tuesday, March 15, information was received that the same cult group had launched an attack on a UNIZIK vigilante group at Miracle Junction, Ifite, Awka. Police operatives were mobilised to lay ambush for the gang as they fled from the scene.

"The effort paid off as the Police succeeded in demobilising the gang. The leader of the gang, one Uchenna Nwobu a.k.a Anali was killed, while the other gang member was arrested."

He said arms and ammunition recovered included the two AK-47 rifles, three pump action guns, three locally made Beretta pistols, one locally made Chief revolver pistol, nine Ak-47 magazine, two battle axes, assorted ammu-

nitions and one Mercedes Benz V-Booth, marked Lagos HC 661AAA.

He added that investigation is ongoing aimed at tracking down other members of the gang and establishing the rightful owner of the recovered car.

Echeng said operatives on stop and search on 23/2/2022 along Onitsha-Enugu Expressway, arrested one Awoke Friday and Ezuma Chukwuemeka, trafficking a large quantity of 250mg of Tramadol and other prohibited drugs in a Toyota Hiace bus to Ebonyi State, adding that the suspects and the case has been transferred to National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA), adding, "All the suspects in police custody shall be charged to court at the end of investigation."