

# Imo State police arrest eight suspected killers of four officers

By Charles Ogugbuaja, Owerri

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*The suspects*

## **Recover arms, ammunition**

Operatives of Imo State Police Command have arrested eight suspected killers of four officers attached to Agwa Police Division in Oguta Local Council of the state.

The hoodlums had at about 11:00 p.m. last Friday, invaded the station in tipper and sienna vehicles and a motorcycle, throwing in an Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs), killing the four cops and setting vehicles and other items packed in the premises ablaze.

Spokesperson for the Command, Michael Abattam, in a statement, yesterday, said the suspects were apprehended after the state Commissioner of Police, Mohammed Ahmed Barde, visited the scene and directed immediate discrete investigation.

The suspects: Obioma Chibuike, 18; Achazie Chidiebere, 22; Onyedikachi Nwadike, 19; Anayo Onyemere, 51; Ifeanyi Mboyi, 26; and Chukwudi Onyeausi, 29; Obodo Promise, 17 and Ifeobu Ebubechi, 22. They were all arrested in Agwa and Izombe communities of the council.

He said: "The Command's tactical teams, on August 6, at about 0300hrs, after diligent gathering of credible intelligence, raided some identified criminal hideouts located between Agwa and Izombe communities in Oguta Local Council, where the hoodlums, on sighting police operatives engaged

them in a gun duel, in an attempt to escape arrest; but were overwhelmed by the superior fire power of the operatives.

“While some suspects escaped, eight persons were arrested. On the spot enquiry revealed that, all the arrested suspects were natives of Agwa and Izombe communities respectively.

“Their weapons were recovered when their hideouts were searched, they include; one pump action gun, two locally made guns, six cutlasses, one Biafran flag, eight live cartridges, eight expended cartridges and one masquerade apparel.”

According to him, one of the suspects, Ifeanyi Mboyi, who attempted to escape was demobilised with bullet wounds, adding that he had been at the Federal Medical Centre, Owerri, receiving treatment.

Meanwhile, the Commissioner of Police, Mohammed Ahmed Barde, has urged the public to assist the police tackle crime frontally, stressing that policing is the collective responsibility of everyone.

He also appealed to Imolites to join hands with the police and other security agencies in the fight against crimes and criminalities and to report any suspicious activities they observe around their neighbourhoods to the nearest police station or call the Command’s emergency numbers: 08034773600 or 08098880197.”