

Soldiers Bombard IPOB Camps In Enugu

From Lawrence Njoku (Enugu)

THE Akpawfu community in Nkanu East local council of Enugu State has reportedly come under heavy bombardment as land and air troops stormed the community, raiding some secret camps of suspected members of the Indigenous People of Biafra (IPOB) and armed bandits in the area.

The raids, which sources said, commenced since Thursday came to a head Saturday morning with military helicopters dropping explosives in forests within Ajeme Akpawfu village where the hoodlums terrorising parts of Nkanu land and Enugu city are believed to be hiding.

It was learnt that the hoodlums also engaged the troops in a shot-out within the forests but details of the raid could not be ascertained by press time.

The area had been raided sometime ago by a combined team of security operatives where many of the hoodlums were reportedly neutralised and their camps destroyed, but the area has remained a major source of security threat in the state.

A resident who claimed to have fled the community Saturday evening with members of his family, said that he had to relocate temporarily to Enugu for the safety following heavy shootings.

"As I am speaking with you, people of neighbouring communities of Oruku and Akpugo said they are hearing deafening sounds of explosives and sporadic gunshots and so many people have relocated to these communities for fear of being cut down in the operation. In fact, Akpawfu is not safe right now.

"The entire Ajeme Akawfu community has been under fire since Thursday and everybody has been running helter-skelter for safety. Truly speaking, there are many hoodlums claiming to be IPOB members and we have been living in fear.