

National

Gunmen ambush, kill two policemen, set patrol vehicle ablaze in Imo

By Charles Ogugbuaja, Owerri

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Gunmen

CP Deploys Tactical Operatives To Apprehend Perpetrators

Gunmen, yesterday, ambushed and attacked police operatives from Mopol 18, Owerri, on patrol duty around Old Garki Road, Okigwe, Imo State, killing two, injuring four and setting ablaze their patrol vehicle.

In a statement, the command's spokesperson, Henry Okoye, said the incident occurred in the early hours of yesterday, regretting that two officers paid the supreme sacrifice.

The statement reads: "The Commissioner of Police (CP), Imo State Command, Aboki Danjuma has condemned the attack and gruesome murder of personnel of Mopol 18, Owerri, by gunmen suspected to be members of the proscribed Indigenous People of Biafra (IPOB) and its armed affiliate Eastern Security Network (ESN). The officers were ambushed in the early hours of Saturday while on patrol duties along old Gariki Road, Okigwe, by the disgruntled elements, who threw dynamite on the officers' patrol vehicle and engaged them in a protracted gunfight. In the process, two officers paid the ultimate price while four others survived the attack."

The statement said the CP has directed the Special Tactical Unit to work in synergy with other sister security agencies to apprehend the perpetrators, stressing: "On receipt of the ugly incident, the Commissioner of Police Imo State Command, CP Aboki Danjuma alongside Commander Mopol 18 and 64, immediately led operatives of the Command's Special Tactical Unit to the crime scene for on-the-spot assessment and tasked the operatives to go all out in synergy with other security agencies and hunt down the hoodlums responsible for the attack."

He called on the general public, particularly, the residents of Okigwe, who may have any useful information that will assist the Police in the investigation to kindly report at the nearest Police Station or via 08034773600, 08103341610.

He urged residents to go about their lawful business without any form of fear or intimidation at the sight of the massive deployment of security operatives in Okigwe. The Commissioner of Police sympathised with the families, associates and friends of the deceased officers, reiterating in strong terms that the Command under his watch would not condone any form of attack on security personnel in the state.

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