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A source, who claimed to have seen the bodies, said they had started decomposing, indicating that they might have been dumped in the last two weeks.

He added: "We are not at war with any community. Our people are farmers. We were shocked when we saw the bodies in a forest in the village. One wonders who took us unawares and dumped these bodies.

"We are confused. Something urgent should be done to avert an outbreak of disease in our community."

Also, the leadership of the Indigenous People of Biafra (IPOB) has condemned the killing and dumping of the body of the deceased persons in Abia community.

A statement yesterday by its spokesman, Emma Powerful, claimed that the bodies were those of the pro-Biafra members who were allegedly arrested and detained in various army camps across the state during the *Operation Python Dance II* in the Southeast.

It said: "The site of these decomposed bodies should be designated as an international crime scene and promptly investigated."

Efforts to reach the spokesman of the 14 Brigade command headquarters of the Army at Ohafia, Major Oyegoke Gbadamosi, were unsuccessful.

His number could not be reached last night.

But a source at the command debunked allegation, saying it was the figment of the pro-Biafra group's imagination.