Stray bullet kills NSCDC officer in Imo gun duel

A stray bullet emanating from the Thursday night's gun duel between a combined security operatives and hoodlums in Orlu town has killed a female Officer of Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) in Imo State.

The officer, Mrs. Glory Nkwocha, The Nation learnt, was hit by a stray bullet during the gun duel that left no fewer than 11 bandits dead.

Our correspondent's investigation revealed that

From Damian Duruiheoma, Owerri

Nkwocha was in the house with her family when the flying bullet hit her.

She was immediately rushed to the intensive care unit of the Federal Medical Centre, Owerri, where she died on Friday.

A source said: "The woman was with her family on Thursday night in Orlu when a stray bullet from the gun battle between security men and unknown gunmen hit her.

"She lost consciousness. It was difficult taking her to a hospital that night because of the tense nature of the environment.

"She was later taken to the emergency unit of the Federal Medical Centre, Owerri, where doctors battled in vain to save her life.

"She died on Friday because her case was already bad by the time she was rushed to the hospital."

Our correspondent gathered that the woman left a very young family.

The source said: "The woman left a very young family. Her children are young and her husband is a young man too.

"The family is very devastated. Her death is very unfortunate. She was a very kind person."

When contacted, the spokesperson for the NSCDC in the state, Lowell Chimeziri, confirmed her death.

Chimeziri said that the deceased's corpse had been deposited in a morgue.

He disclosed that the command had launched an investigation with a view to ascertaining the bullet that hit her.

The spokesperson said: "Yes, I can confirm it. She was hit by a stray bullet in Orlu on Thursday and regrettably, she died in a hospital on Friday.

"Her remains have been deposited in a morgue. We have launched an investigation and in a few days time, we will make our findings public."