

# Many killed, others injured in raid on IPOB/ESN camp

**U** NSPECIFIED number of Indigenous People of Biafra (IPOB) and Eastern Security Network (ESN) members was killed in a bloody clash with the police during a raid on their camp at Akata in Oru East Local Government Area, Imo State yesterday.

The police also suffered heavy casualties as some members of IPOB/ESN laid an ambush for the policemen as they were returning from the raid.

It was learnt that the IPOB/ESN militants threw petrol bombs and Improvised Explosives Devices (I.E.Ds) at the police vehicles.

According to credible information by the Imo State Command's intelligence unit, suspected members of IPOB/ESN were seen mobilising to attack police formations and government installations in the state from their camp located at Akata in Oru East LGA of Imo State.

It was learnt that the state

■ Chris NJOKU,  
Owerri ■

Commissioner of Police, Hussaini Rabi, immediately dispatched the command's special forces and tactical teams led by the officer in charge of Operation Restore Peace, ACP Evans Shem, to go and dislodge the bandits as a proactive measure to nip their planned attack in the bud.

Police spokesman CSP Michael Abattam, who disclosed this in a statement, said on approaching the camp, the police teams were attacked by the terror group.

He said in the battle that ensued, the head of the IPOB/ESN group and others were neutralised.

He said the following items were recovered: three Improvised Explosives Devices (I.E.D), two pump action guns, nine cartridges, one locally made pistol and one Toyota Highlander SUV vehicle with registration number IMO DFB 535 LC.