

# Two shot dead at Imo military checkpoint

From Chris Njoku, Owerri

**G**UNMEN have attacked a military checkpoint at Ubomiri/Nwaorieubi Road in Mbaitoli Local Government Area of Imo State.

An eyewitness said yesterday morning that there was heavy shooting which lasted over 45 minutes during which two deaths were recorded.

He said the hoodlums, who reportedly opened fire on the security personnel, came in a Toyota Sienna around 7:30 pm and parked far away due to traffic congestion before storming the checkpoint.

He said gunmen had targetted offices of the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) as well as security operatives in recent months.

Another witness who gave his name as Emma said his elder brother residing at Ubomiri called him to stay away from the area at the time the shooting was going on.

"My brother told me not to pass the road because of the attack. I also informed my children who had gone to see him to take another route to avoid the danger."

It was gathered that people residing around the area have already vacated their houses for fear of a fresh attack.

A senior police said that the Army is in the position to talk on the issue since the incident involved them.

Efforts made to get the Army's reaction failed as the spokesperson, Capt. Joseph Akubo did not answer his calls.