## Police kill five 'IPOB' members, others



Emma Elekwa, Onitsha

• Rocket launchers, AK-47 rifles, charms recovered







The Police in Anambra State said it killed five suspected members of the proscribed Indigenous Peoples of Biafra (IPOB) and Eastern Security Network (ESN).

Commissioner of Police (CP), Echeng Echeng, disclosed this yesterday in a statement, adding that the suspects were killed during gun battle with joint security forces at Akwaihedi, a border town between Imo and Anambra states.

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He said two rocket launchers, four Ak47 rifles, one automatic pump action, four magazines, eight live ammunition, police berets, charms and other incriminating items were recovered from the deceased.

The statement signed by CP Echeng read: "By 3pm today (yesterday) joint security forces in a village, Akwaihedi, Nnewi South, a border town between Imo and Anambra state, accosted a deadly gang of five operating on motorbikes suspected to be members of IPOB and ESN, who were en route to Anambra for a planned attack/operation.

"The operatives engaged the assailants, neutralised five of the gang members, and recovered two rocket launchers, four Ak47 rifles, one automatic pump action, four magazines, eight live ammunition, police berets, charms and other incriminating items."

ite would be sustained until stability

He said: "There were some major positive developments on May 10, following credible information to the Police Command from residents of Anambra. We have identified some of their criminal hideouts/camps.

"The police operatives attached to Rapid Response Squad, Akwuzu, while in an attempt to rescue two of the kidnapped victims, stormed a camp at ifite, Ogbunike, Oyi LGA, neutralised two of the armed men, recovered a black Lexus SUV with a lot of police and military uniforms."

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