## Security operatives feared dead in Imo



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• From Chris Njoku, Owerri

Many security operatives were feared dead yesterday as two patrol vehicles conveying them were set ablaze by unidentified gunmen in Imo State.

It was learnt that gunmen attacked and allegedly killed the combined security operatives said to be over eight in number, as well as set ablaze two of their operational vehicles.

An eyewitness who spoke to reporters said the incident happened at about 11:30am in Oriagu, around Aba, in Ehime Mbano Local Government.



A video clip of the attack which went viral saw about five charred bodies of soldiers in their uniforms and their guns. Also, their two vehicles were torched.

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At press time, it was said that the road leading to the scene of the incident had been cordoned off.

as tension continued to rise around the affected community.

Another resident disclosed that the local government area has been identified as an operational zone for the hoodlums who the Nation learnt operate from a valley that is difficult for the security operatives to manorve.

"Anytime they attack, they escape into the valley which has thick vast forest with caves surrounding it that makes it difficult for the security people to arrest them, the government knows that place is dangerous," he said.

At the time filing this report, the Imo state Police Public Relations Officer, PPRO, Henry Okoye, has yet to respond to the enquiry on the incident.