

# Imo police command loses two officers in suspected IPOB attack

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| Owerri

THE Imo State Police Command has lost two of its officers during the bandits attack on Izombe police station in Oguta Local Government Area of the state on Friday.

The officers were killed during a gun battle between them and the bandits in an effort to repel an attack on the police station.

The Command's Public Relations Officers, CSP Michael Abatham, confirmed this in a

statement he issued to newsmen in Owerri on Saturday.

He, however, said that the Command's tactical teams and personnel of Operation Restore Peace (ORP) successfully repelled the bandits attack targeted at destroying the police station.

Abatham said that the bandits suspected to be members of the proscribed Indigenous People Of Biafra (IPOB) and Eastern Security Network (ESN) came in their numbers to attack Izombe police station.

The PPRO said that the armed men could not gain access to the station due to the swift response of the Command's tactical teams and its ORP personnel, who, according to him, intercepted and repelled them.

He said: "The bandits on sighting the police engaged them in a gun duel, but unfortunately they were subdued, due to the superior fire power of the police.

"As a result of that, they fled into the bush and in the process, three of them

were neutralised and their arms: one pump action gun with two rounds of live cartridges and one locally made double barrel pistol with two expended cartridges were recovered from them to the station."

The PPRO, who added that other bandits escaped into the bush with bullet wounds, called on the residents of the state, especially those in the Izombe community to assist the police with credible information that would lead to the arrest of the fleeing bandits.