

# Troops kill suspected IPOB/ESN gunman in Imo

**T**ROOPS of the 34 Artillery Brigade, Nigerian Army, have killed a notorious gunman of the proscribed Indigenous People of Biafra (IPOB) and its armed affiliate, Eastern Security Network (ESN), in Imo.

According to the **News Agency of Nigeria (NAN)**, the Director, Army Public Relations, Brigadier-General

Onyema Nwachukwu, stated in Abuja on Monday that the gunman was killed in an encounter at Ihioma community in Orlu Local Government Area of the state.

Nwachukwu said troops encountered members of the separatist group who were firing sporadically at Banana Junction to enforce their illegal sit-at-home order on law-abiding citizens.

According to him, on sighting the troops, the IPOB/ESN criminals withdrew in a blue Toyota Highlander towards Ihioma community for reinforcement.

"In the fire fight that ensued, one of the criminals was taken out [killed], while others fled in disarray.

"Troops are combing the general area in a follow-up operation to track down the fleeing dissidents.

"Having suffered casualty and been effectively denied freedom of action by the troops, the group has resorted to cheap propaganda to whip up public sentiments.

"This it has done by circulating a doctored video on the social media alleging troops' complicity in their mindless atrocities."

"This propaganda should be disregarded in its entirety," Nwachukwu stated.