

Police Raid ESN/IPOB Camp In Enugu, Exhume Decaying Body Of Missing Police Officer

By Igbonaka Chukwu On Aug 16, 2022

METRO



ESN

Operatives of the Enugu State Police Command drawn from the Tactical Squads and Operation Restore Peace have raided IPOB/ESN camp in a forest at Agu-Ibeje in Enugu-Ezike community of Igbo-Eze North Local Government Area.

Police Public Relations Officer of the Command, DSP Daniel Ndukwe, disclosed this in a statement on Tuesday in Enugu.

Ndukwe said during the raid, the operatives neutralized one person, and recovered firearms, ammunition, motor vehicles as well as motorcycles and other incriminating exhibits.

The statement also added that the decaying body of a police officer, Okpanachi Johnson, who was declared missing was exhumed.

The statement reads in full: “In pursuance of the crime-fighting strategies devised by the Commissioner of Police, Enugu State Command, CP Abubakar Lawal, fdc, to rid the State of criminals and their activities, Police Operatives of the Command drawn from Tactical Squads and Operation Restore Peace, between 11th and 12th August 2022, carried out a tactical and intelligence-driven dusk to dawn raid of IPOB/ESN camp in a forest at Agu-Ibeje in Enugu-Ezike community of Igbo-Eze North Local Government Area.

“The hoodlums, on sighting the Operatives, engaged them in a gun duel, which led to the neutralization of one of them while several others escaped with varying degrees of fatal gunshot wounds, due to the superior firepower of the Operatives.

“The operation led to the discovery and exhumation from a shallow grave in the camp, the corpse of their male victim identified as Okpanachi Johnson, a Police Officer serving in Igbo-Eze North Police Division of the Command, who had gone missing on 30/07/2022, with all effort made to trace his whereabouts proving abortive. Also recovered at the Camp are the following exhibits: twelve (12) firearms, including one AR-K2 Assault, six (6) Pump Action guns, one (1) locally-made Berretta-like pistol and five (5) locally-fabricated double-barreled guns; ninety-eight (98) live cartridges; two (2) Machetes, one (1) Digger, one (1) Battle axe and one (1) Hacksaw; five (5) motor vehicles, including three (3) Toyota Sienna minivans, one (1) Honda Pilot Jeep and one (1) Hiace (Hummer) bus loaded with assorted Ankara fabrics, all reported to have been snatched from their owners at different times within the area by the hoodlums; twenty (20) different brands of motorcycles with their plate numbers removed; one (1) Police bullet-proof vest; one (1) pair of Police Camouflage uniform; one (1) pair of Military camouflage uniform with a cap and Military singlet”.

“Others include one (1) piece of red-black-green coloured clothing identified as Biafra flag and another five (5) pieces of masquerade-like attires of the said flag colours; one (1) HP laptop with its bag; twenty two (22) different brands of mobile phones; six (6) different brands of Mp3 players; one (1) Canon camera, Six (6) torchlights.

“Three (3) rolls of cello-tapes; one (1) air pumping machine; one (1) small yellow-coloured generating set; fifteen (15) fabric armless and five (5) plastic chairs; a set of musical equipment, including band set, piano, guiter and speakers, the hoodlums are alleged to have stolen after invading a church in the area; seven (7) school bags; one (1) Camp bed and twenty (21) pieces of table spoons.

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“In a related development, the Police Operatives, on 08/08/2022 at about 9.15am, recovered two (2) AK-47 rifles with four (4) all loaded with a total of sixty four (64) rounds of 7.62mm caliber of live ammunition (currently in the custody of 82 Division of the Nigerian Army Enugu), one (1) locally-made cut-to-size gun, one (1) Dane gun, one (1) Lexus RX 330 and one (1) RX 300 Jeeps, one Honda Pilot Jeep, twenty five (25) machetes, two (2) axes, one (1) dagger, four (4) phones, a Military camouflage uniform, two (2) Forest uniform trousers and fetish items suspected to be charms.

“The recovery is sequel to the Operatives swift response to a distress call alleging that IPOB/ESN hoodlums invaded and set ablaze the house of a local vigilante at Oduma community in Aninri Local Government Area on the said date.

“Meanwhile, the Commissioner, while commending the Operatives for the successful execution of the operations without any casualty recorded by the Command, has charged them to remain focused on actualizing the overall goal of ridding the State of unrepentant criminal elements.

“He further calls on residents of the State to remain law-abiding, vigilant and support the Command with credible information and/or intelligence it requires to combat criminals and their activities. He also enjoins individuals and owners of medical facilities to quickly report anyone sighted with gunshot injuries to the Police.”