

# Sit-at-home: Gunmen raze buses, tricycle, motorcycles in Ebonyi

## Troops clear four IPOB/ESN camps in Imo, recover fresh, old corpses

Grace Egbo | Abakaliki  
with agency report

GUNMEN suspected to be members of the Indigenous People of Biafra (IPOB) and Eastern Security Network (ESN) on Monday set ablaze three commuter buses, one tricycle and four motorcycles in Ebonyi State while enforcing the sit-at-home order.

The incident occurred at the popular Ezzangbo junction in Ohaukwu Local Government Area, just few kilometres to Abakaliki town, the state capital.

According to eyewitnesses who spoke with the *Nigerian Tribune*, the gunmen stormed the area in a Toyota Sienna vehicle and started shooting sporadically before setting the buses, tricycle and motorcycles on fire.

When contacted, the state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Onome Onovwakpoyeya, confirmed the incident.

She said operatives of the command had been deployed in the area.

The police spokesperson

said: "Today, October 2, gunmen suspected to be IPOB/ESN members in a Sienna vehicle attacked commuter buses, tricycle and motorcycles at Ezzangbo junction

"They burnt down three commuter buses, four motorcycles and one tricycle.

"No life was lost. Operatives of the command have been dispatched to the scene and environs to fish out the perpetrators."

In another development, troops of the Joint Task Force, South-East, code-named Operation Udo Ka II,

have cleared four IPOB/ESN camps in Imo State.

According to the *News Agency of Nigeria (NAN)*, the troops, in the course of the clearance, killed two IPOB/ESN members, while four others were arrested.

This was contained in a statement issued on Monday in Enugu by the acting Deputy Director, Army Public Relations, 82 Division, Nigerian Army, Lieutenant-Colonel Jonah Unuakhalu.

Unuakhalu said the camps were located in three com-

munities – Ihube, Aku and Umulolo – in Okigwe Local Government Area.

He said the clearance was carried out on Sunday, October 1, adding that during the operation, troops encountered many Improvised Explosive Device (IEDs) deployed enroute to the camps.

According to him, due to superior firepower of the troops, the group members fled into neighbouring forests with gunshot wounds.

"It was discovered that the camps were being used to

perpetrate atrocities such as cannibalism, occultic practices and ritual killings to instill fear into law-abiding citizens.

"These were evident from many fresh and old corpses discovered while clearing the camps.

"Also, the houses of the two spiritual leaders and herbalists who took to their heels were destroyed.

"Furthermore, the shrine of a wanted terrorist where human sacrifices were being made was destroyed," he said.