## Police officer killed, others injured as gunmen attack

Michael Ovat | Awka

UNMEN sus- the pected to be kill members of othe Indigenous green peoples of Biafra Tourity Network (ESN) on Tues- Touring, bombed the is the Oba Police Divisional Head- coin

quarters in Idemili South Lo-

cal Government Area of An-

ambra State.

Nigerian Tribune gathered that a police corporal was killed during the attack, while others sustained varying degrees of injury.

The hoodlums also attacked the Oba Civic Centre.

The reason for the attacks is yet to be known, but it coincides with a declaration by secessionist leader, Simon Ekpa, who called for a

month-long hostility against government establishments in the South-East, starting from August 28.

Anambra State Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Tochukwu Ikenga, confirmed the incident in a statement.

Ikenga said: "A joint security force comprising the Army, Navy, Nigeria Security and Cilvil Defence Corps (NSCDC) and other agencies, is currently conducting a joint operation in Oba and environs."

He said the suspected gunmen shot sporadically and threw petrol bombs, causing fires in some offices and the civic centre.

The PPRO's statement reads in part: "The police-led Joint Security Force, comprising the Army, Navy, Nigeria Security and Civil Defence

Corps (NSCDC) and other security agencies, is currently in a joint operation within Oba and environments.

"There was an attack in the early hours of today [Tuesday] on Oba Police Divisional Headquarters and Oba Civic Centre.

"The armed successionist group started shooting sporadically in an attempt to gain entrance to the police station and threw petrol bombs at the security facility which made some of the offices catch up with fire, including the Oba Civic Centre.

"Unfortunately, a police corporal, who was fatally wounded, paid the supreme price, while the fire was put out with the help of other police officers on duty and the Joint Security responding team."