

## Soldiers kill three robbers in Abia, recover arms

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Operatives of the Joint Task Force of the *Atilogwu Udo Dance* in the South-East attached to the 14 Brigade headquarters of the Nigerian Army, Ohafia, Abia State, have reportedly shot dead three suspected armed robbers terrorising Aba, the commercial hub of the state, and its environs.

It was gathered that the hoodlums, who specialised in car snatching, among other crimes, met their end during a gun battle with the JTF operatives.

A source, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the soldiers went to the Ala Oji area of the city in response to a distress call.

It was gathered that the soldiers, after recovering the car that the armed robbers had snatched, also recovered arms at the hoodlums' hideout in Aba.

The source added that 10 persons were arrested when the JTF raided the hideout.

The source added, "The incident happened at Alaoji around 4.45am. On getting there, the armed robbers sighted the patrol team and ran into the bush and abandoned the car that they had snatched. One of the suspects was caught.

"The captured suspect took the team to their hideout. While trying to arrest other members of the gang, the hoodlums exchanged gunfire with the soldiers. Three of the robbers were killed. Five weapons were recovered from the hoodlums.

"Ten persons were arrested in the hideout at the Alaoji/Ugwunagbo area. They will be handed over to sister security agencies for prosecution."