

Dare Olawin

A policeman attached to the Imo State Police Command, Cosmas Ugwu, has been shot dead by his girlfriend.

Ugwu was shot dead on Tuesday by his 23-year-old lover, who was identified as Amanda Uchechi Ugo, a native of Ahiazu Mbaise Local Government Area of Imo State.

PUNCH Metro gathered from reliable sources that the incident occurred around 6:30pm on Boxing Day at the Ezinihitte Area Command.

Officers on counter duty were said to have heard three gunshots from the room being occupied by the deceased officer.

"When police officers ran into the room to see what was going on, they found Corporal Ugwu lying in a pool of his blood. The girl shot him three times on his chest and his left hand. He was rushed immediately to Evergreen Hospital in Ezinihitte, where



• Imo CP, Danjuma

he was pronounced dead by the doctor on duty," a source told our correspondent in a chat on Wednesday.

Our correspondent learnt that the deceased had a serious

fight with his girlfriend, and in the course of the altercation, the girl reached for his rifle, pulled the trigger and shot him three times.

The source added, "Nobody

actually knows what went wrong between the two, but how the girl was able to use a police rifle successfully is still a surprise to many. Maybe, Ugwu was the one who taught her."

PUNCH Metro reports that the remains of the slain officer had been deposited at the Obizi mortuary, while further investigation continues.

The suspect is currently in the police custody for interrogation and possible prosecution.

When contacted by our correspondent, the Police Public Relations Officer in Imo State, Henry Okoye, confirmed the incident exclusively to PUNCH Metro, saying the police were doing everything to ascertain what really transpired.

"Yes, the incident happened. A policeman was allegedly shot dead by his girlfriend. He was serving at Ezinihitte Mbaise.

Girlfriend shoots policeman to death in Imo

Currently, the girl involved has been arrested. We are

doing everything to ensure we investigate the matter, to

ascertain the fact and possibly arraign the suspect in court,"

Okoye stated in a telephone conversation.

Police, hunters kill six suspected kidnappers in Bauchi

Armstrong Bakam, Bauchi

THE Bauchi State Commissioner of Police, Auwal Muhammad, has said that the command's operatives in collaboration with a hunters group have killed six suspected kidnappers during a gun battle in Ningi Local Government Area of the state.

He disclosed this while briefing journalists at the Ningi LGA Area Command, on Wednesday, saying some of the suspected kidnappers scammed in disarray and escaped with bullet wounds into the nearby bush.

Muhammad said their preliminary investigation revealed that the bandits had, within two weeks, invaded three villages around Ningi, including Bukutumbe, Iyayi, Kayadda, and

Gamji village.

He said during the attack, they shot four people and killed one member of a vigilante group at Bukutumbe, and proceeded to Kiyawa LGA, Jigawa State where they kidnapped two wives of the Chairman Kiyawa LGA.

According to him, during the encounter with the bandits, two AK47 rifles, 55 live ammunition, four empty magazines, N4,580,000, one Golf three, seven new Airtel SIM cards, 190 pieces of recharge cards for both MTN and Airtel networks were recovered from the kidnappers' den as exhibits.

"The unrelenting and aggressive counter-kidnapping strategies of the command in the fight against kidnapping and other heinous crimes have continued to yield positive results as the operatives of the command and other sister security agencies recorded yet another harvest of criminals and elements.

"During this organised courageous operation, the command was able to pull apart kidnappers/bandits syndicates due to the intense superior firepower by the police, in collaboration with quasi-security



•The recovered items

outfits (Ahmed Ali Kwara). So many kidnappers were neutralised while others scammed in disarray and escaped with bullet wounds into the nearby bush.

"If you may recall, sometime in July 2023, eight people were killed including the traditional ruler of Kada and Gamji village via Ningi LGA and bandits kidnapped other residents to unknown destinations.

"Consequently, the Command raised a team of detectives in conjunction with quasi-security outfits, (Ahmed Ali Kwara)

and successfully engaged the kidnappers/bandits in a gun duel, on December 26, 2023, at about 4.03am, and neutralised six of the kidnappers which led to the recovery of two AK47 rifles, 55 live ammunition, four empty magazines. The sum of N4,580,000 was recovered from the kidnappers' den as an exhibit, one Golf three, seven new Airtel SIM cards, three Tecno keypad phones, two itel keypad phones and one Bontel keypad phone.

Continued on www.punchng.com

Four injured as fire guts petrol station in Lagos

Dayo Oyewo
with agency report

FOUR yet-to-be-identified persons sustained varying degrees of injuries in a fire

sell in the neighbouring country. Our men were able to contain the fire. Four people were injured as you can see in the reports"



3.55 a.m. same day

"They have taken most of the victims of the fire incident to the general hospital before our arrival," Dossa said.