

# One killed in police, gunmen duel in Imo

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| By Chigozie Uzosike

The Imo State Police Command, on Wednesday, said it had achieved another significant operational success in the fight against violent crime in the state.

In a release, the police spokesperson, Henry Okoye, stated, “Yesterday, (Tuesday), operatives from the command’s Counter Terrorism Unit repelled an attack by suspected IPOB/ESN terrorists during a routine patrol along the Owerri-Aba Road, near Owerri Airport.

“The attackers, numbering about 10 in two vehicles, launched a violent assault but were effectively countered by the unit who demonstrated an act of valour. In the ensuing gun battle, one suspect was neutralised, while the others fled with gunshot injuries, abandoning their operational vehicle, a Mercedes Jeep, ash in colour, with Lagos State registration number AAA 101 GR.

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“Fortunately, no casualties nor injuries were recorded among our operatives. In the aftermath, the operatives recovered an AK-47 rifle and 15 rounds of 9.62mm live ammunition from the deceased suspect, IPOB/ESN flag and

the abandoned vehicle. Intense combing of the nearby bushes is ongoing to apprehend the other fleeing suspects.”

The state police spokesperson disclosed that the Commissioner of Police, Akoji Danjuma, urged the public, particularly medical practitioners to report anyone seen with or treating gunshot injuries to the nearest police station.

He said the command remained dedicated to ensuring the safety of all citizens and would take necessary measures to address any threats to public peace in the state.