

fter Ebonyi police arrest 70 for robbery, murder, kidnapping

By Ngozi Uwujare

EBONYI State Police Command has arrested over 40 suspected armed robbers, kidnappers and 30 murderers and recovered over 50 arms and ammunition from their hideouts.

The Commissioner of Police, Mr. Maigari Dikko, said the command clamped down on some armed robbers in May when the SARS operatives had an encounter with them in Abakaliki and rounded them up and recovered arms and ammunition from them:

"We recorded over 20 murder cases within two months. We arrested the suspects and transferred the cases to the state Criminal Investigation Department. The Assistant Commissioner of Police, Mrs. Augustina Ogodo, in charge of the department with her officers arrested the suspects and investigated the cases.

"Murder cases in Ebonyi State are so rampant that immediately the ACP Ogodo concluded under homicide section, we charged the case to court for the suspect to face the law. I have warned my DPO's and area commanders not to waste time on any murder case, unless the suspect is at large that the investigation can take us for a long time.

"SARS operatives are patrolling the banks 48 hours and we have our policemen in strategies areas. Policemen should stay away from corruption. I don't expect my policemen to be extorting money from the public. In Ebonyi State, people are mostly farmers, we are here to protect them not to extorting money from them. Any policeman caught extorting money, will be shown way out of the force.

"I want to commend my men and officers the way they conducted themselves, during the general elections. They applied professionalism in the job. They never involved in any crime rather they did their job the way it ought to be done.

"IGP Solomon Arase has given the command some operation vehicles for the federal highway patrol and monitor hoodlums on the highway. We have mapped out strategies on the Eungu/Abakaliki Expressway, where policemen are patrolling the highway to make sure that the rate of robbing passengers on highway is reduced.

"On the Port Harcourt/Ebonyi Expressway, we arrested some hoodlums. SARS operatives moved to the scene and arrested the some hoodlums and recovered charms and arms and ammunition from them.

"Cultism in Ebonyi State is a thing of the past. In April, we had encounters with cultists on daily basis. We set up police patrols in various institutions and we were able to checkmate cultism in campuses and arrested some of them and immediately we charged them to court.

"I have dialogue with the SUG students of various institutions for co-operation with the police to eradicate cultism. Since then, the police and the institutions are in a good relationship. This enabled us to have cultism reduced drastically in the institutions.

"People should be law abiding. Our duty is to provide security for the state. We want the people to co-operate with the new government and the police for peace. The state will be too hot for criminals."



Ebonyi CP, Maigari Dikko

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