

Police kill 1 gunman, recover weapons in Anambra

From **Obinna Odogwu**, Awka

ONE gunman has been neutralised by the police in Anambra State during a gun battle at Nteje Divisional Headquarters in Oyi Local Government Area of the state.

Police Public Relations Officer in the state, DSP Tochukwu Ikenga, in a statement, said that the Police Commissioner, CP Echeng Echeng, had led operatives to launch an offensive on some gunmen who attacked the station.

He said that the CP, who received a distress call that the station was under attack, raced to the scene where he engaged the criminals, alongside his team, killing one, while others narrowly escaped.

The statement reads: "Anambra Police Operatives, led by CP Echeng Echeng, today, 14/4/2022, at about 3am, foiled an attack by gunmen at Nteje Divisional headquarters Oyi LGA.

"The operatives recovered one type O6 rifle, one magazine and 53 live ammunition of 5.56mm and charms.

"CP Echeng led the crack squad when responding to the distress call as the station came under attack by the deadly gang. The police operatives decisively dealt with the assailants.

"During the gun duel, one of the gunmen was neutralised and, due to the superior fire of the police operatives, the assailants fled the scene.

"The station was secured and all police operatives and arms were intact.

"The CP, while reiterating that the command will not relent in delivering

on its mandate on protection of lives and properties, commended the officers

and men of the command for their perseverance and painstaking efforts to weed

out all criminal elements in the state."

IGP promotes 21,039 junior police officers

Stories from **Molly Kilete**, Abuja

THE Inspector-General of Police (IGP), Usman Baba, has approved the promotion of 21,039 junior police officers who were last promoted in 2017.

Acting force Public Relations Officer, Olumuyiwa Adejobi, who made the disclosure, said, 20,572 Sergeants were promoted to the next rank of Inspector, 324 Corporals to Sergeants, and 143 Constables to the rank of Corporal.

Adejobi, in a statement issued in Abuja, said the protocol is part of the ongoing effort at improving the welfare, conditions of service, boosting the morale of personnel, with a view to repositioning the Force for greater efficiency.

The statement reads: "The Inspector-General of Police, IGP Usman Alkali Baba, on Wednesday, April 13, 2022, at about 2.30 pm, graciously approved the promotion of 21,039 junior police officers who were last promoted on or before 2017.

The promotion, which comprised the elevation of 20,572 Sergeants to the next rank of Inspector, 324 Corporals to Sergeants, and 143 Constables to the rank of Corporal, is part of the ongoing efforts aimed at improving welfare, conditions of service, boosting the morale of personnel, with a view to repositioning the Force for greater efficiency.

The IGP further noted that the promotion of the officers is part of the manpower development drive of his administration, to ensure that deserving personnel are promoted accordingly, to encourage hard work, and further embed the culture of merit, excellence, and dedication to duties.

The IGP equally assured senior police officers that the Force high command is liaising with the Police Service Commission on the release of their promotion, which is expected to be approved and released as soon as possible.

The IGP, while commending the newly promoted officers for their resilience and

invaluable commitment to duties, charged them to see their promotion as a call for renewed zeal, vigour, patriotism to duty, and further re-dedication to professional policing standards.

The IGP equally restated the commitment of his administration to entrenching longstanding reforms in the Nigeria Police Force.

... Orders watertight security, patrols around churches, recreational centres, others

THE Inspector-General of Police (IGP), Usman Baba, has ordered a watertight security patrol around motor parks, train stations, airports, worship centres, recreation centres, banks, and other financial institutions to ensure a peaceful, crime-free Easter celebrations.

The IGP has also ordered State Commissioners of Police (CPs) and their supervising Assistant Inspectors-General of Police (AIGs), to ensure adequate deployment of police personnel, and operational assets to areas of security interest within their respective areas of responsibility (AoRs).

The IGP's order, contained in a statement signed by the Acting force Public Relations Officer, Olumuyiwa Adejobi, felicitated with Nigerians and the Christian community,

and urged them to continue to cooperate with the Nigeria Police and other security agencies by providing timely information that would help in the prevention and detection of crime.

The IGP equally ordered that supervising officers should ensure confidence-boosting, proactive, and high visibility patrols are carried out along the highways, motor parks, train stations, airports, worship centres, recreation centres, banks, and other financial institutions, while taking adequate measures to provide a peaceful, crime-free, and enabling environment for religious, cultural and other socio-economic activities to thrive.

In addition, the Commissioners of Police and their supervising AIGs have been directed to ensure proper supervision of

the men assigned for these assignments.

They must be professional and courteous to law-abiding citizens, but firm and ruthless to criminal elements who might want to take the advantage of the festive period to perpetrate their unholy acts.

To this effect, the IGP Monitoring Unit and X-Squad have been given marching orders to monitor activities of police officers policing the highways, to ensure respect for the rights of citizens and operational conformity with the Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) and Rules of Engagement (RoE) of the Force; the Complaint Response Unit, vis-à-vis Public Complaint Bureau, have equally been charged to respond swiftly to complaints received from the general public.