

Police kill 4 gunmen in Anambra

From **Oblinna Odogwu,**
Awka

POLICE operatives in Anambra State have killed four of the gunmen terrorising various parts of the state. The four were taken out at

Umuchu community in Aguiata Local Government Area of the state during a gun battle.

This was disclosed by the Commissioner of Police in the state, Echeng Echeng, at a press briefing at the command's headquarters in

Amawbia, Awka South LGA.

Echeng said that the police acted on information released to them by a concerned citizen in Umunze community, Orumba South LGA. He said that the police trailed the gunmen from Umunze to Umu-

chu, where an exchange of gunfire ensued.

"Last Monday, just a phone call by a concerned citizen, I don't know him up till now; he told me that bad boys using Hummer Jeep were operating in Umunze. And I followed it

immediately because I had a team that was close by.

"When the team left, he told me that they had left Umunze and entered Umuchu. He gave me a description and we attacked that place. When we got there, they exchanged fire with us and four of them were taken out. The Hummer bus is the one that is parked outside there. You see what information can do. We expect more from the communities," said CP Echeng who lamented that the police were not getting enough information from the people.

Echeng commiserated with the family and kinsmen of Okechukwu Okoye, who was murdered by gunmen last Saturday, after he was abducted on May 15, saying that the police would not leave any stone unturned in its efforts to bring the perpetrators of the dastardly act to book.

Okoye, popularly known as Okey di Okay, represented Aguiata II Constituency in the Anambra State House of Assembly. He was Governor Chukwuma Soludo's kinsman. He was abducted alongside his aide, Cyril Chiegboka.

6 ISWAP terrorists die in clash with Boko Haram

NO fewer than six Islamic State of the West African Province (ISWAP) terrorists were killed in a rival clash with the Boko Haram insurgents affiliated to the Jam'at Ahl as-Sunnah lid-Da'wah wal-Jihad, in the fringes of Sambisa forest.

The Boko Haram faction was said to have attacked a convoy of ISWAP terrorists last Sunday night between the Kaffa and Litawa axis, in Damboa Local Government Area of Borno State.

A counterinsurgency expert and security analyst in Lake

Chad, Zagazola Makama, disclosed that intelligence reports from military sources had it that six of the ISWAP terrorists were confirmed killed, while one of their vehicles was damaged. At about 0700hours, the ISWAP insurgents on six gun trucks and three motorcycles arrived at the

Kaffa axis to evacuate the dead bodies, and then proceeded to the Wajiroko axis.

"The infighting and bitter rivalry between the two terrorists factions had intensified with both groups hunting to kill each other at any given opportunity," the source said.

Corruption: EFCC decries loss of cases on technical grounds

By **Emma Njoku**

THE Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) has decried the rate at which corruption cases are being lost to technicalities at various levels of court in the country.

Executive Chairman of the Commission, Mr. Abdulrasheed Bawa, raised the alarm, yesterday, in Abuja, stressed that such a development may serve as a disincentive to the fight against economic and financial crimes.

In his opening remark at a three-day capacity building workshop, themed; "Judicial dynamism: A key factor in the fight against economic and financial crimes", organised for judicial officers, corruption investigators and prosecutors, Bawa noted that corruption cases being lost on technical grounds have a way of building confidence in corrupt elements and negatively affecting the cherished image of the judiciary.

In his address, part of which is contained in a statement by

the Head, Media and Publicity of the Commission, Wilson Uwujare, the EFCC boss said:

"As a Commission, we do not expect every judicial decision to go our way, but there are instances the EFCC and many Nigerians have been left at a loss about certain judicial decisions, where defendants, who obviously have stolen our commonwealth and those who have aided and abetted them have been allowed to go home to enjoy their proceeds of crime on technical grounds. This has the tendency of affecting negatively the cherished image of and confidence in the Nigerian judiciary, both locally and internationally.

"In the Commission, we hold the view that corruption is a plague that does not select its victims. Those stealing and abusing our common patrimony do not wish us well. Judges are as much victims of corruption as the ordinary man on the streets. It is, therefore, in our collective interest that the gains of the fight against corruption are not reversed. This

is also why we must aggregate fresh opinions and forge deliberate winning tactics and strategies to stem its ugly tide."

While commending the judiciary for its role in making the convictions record possible, the EFCC chairman advocated an enhanced welfare package for judges and justices. He commended President Muhammadu Buhari for signing

into law the Money Laundering (Prevention and Prohibition) Act 2022, the Terrorism (Prevention and Prohibition) Act 2022 and the Proceeds of Crime (Recovery and Management, Act, 2022, expressing optimism that the new laws would serve as significant legal instruments that would further strengthen and deepen the anti-corruption war.

2 hotel workers die mysteriously in Cross River

From **Judex Okoro,**
Calabar

TRAGEDY struck residents of Parliamentary community in Calabar Municipality of Cross River State as two members of staff died mysteriously.

The lifeless bodies of the two hotel workers (names withheld) were discovered in a hotel room late last Saturday night.

Investigations by Daily Sun showed that the deceased, Joseph Enagu Onya, 18, from Yala Nkum in Ikem and Daniel Asuatang Mathew from Ini in

Akwa Ibom, were discovered with foam on their mouths, while some traces of blood were also seen on the floor of the room.

The duo were said to have worked in the hotel in the last six months without any issue.

A source close to the hotel revealed that the duo cooked on Saturday and many of them ate the food, including other members of staff, but the next morning their bodies were discovered.

The source further said that they would have suspected generator fumes, but there

was light, and so the generator was never turned on all through the night.

Another staff member who was on duty said, "we tried to bring in a doctor to see if they could be revived, but nothing could be done for them."

But, a family member, who pleaded anonymity, lamented that they were not rushed to the hospital immediately, adding, "after they discovered that they were dead, why didn't they immediately inform the police?"

(Continued on www.sunnewsonline.com)