

# Imo: Police raid ESN camp, kill 5

FROM **STANLEY UZOARU,**  
**OWERRI**

**THE** Imo State Police Command said it has raided a hideout of the Eastern Security Network (ESN) of the Indigenous People of Biafra (IPOB) at Izombe, in Oguta Local Government Area of the state, killing five of the suspects.

In a statement by the spokesperson of the police, Michael Abattam, the police said they got wind of the location of the new camp created by the hoodlums and, in an attempt to arrest the suspects, they got engaged in a gun duel with the hoodlums. Five of the suspects were gunned down on the spot, even as three policemen reportedly sustained injuries.

Abattam said the camps of the

bandits were searched and four live tortoise, army and police uniforms as well as live ammunitions, including explosives, were recovered.

"The hoodlums, realizing they have suffered a heavy defeat, went for a reprisal attack in the villages, burning houses belonging to both serving and retired police officers and other security agencies. Furthermore, houses belonging to persons they suspect are informants to security agencies were equally burnt down," Abattam stated.

He assured that the community had been fortified with enough police operatives and other security officers to protect lives and property. He said efforts were on to arrest the fleeing suspects.