

Uchenna Inya,
ABAKALIKI

The police in Ebonyi State yesterday confirmed that they killed gunmen suspected to be members of the Indigenous People of Biafra (IPOB) and Eastern Security Network (ESN) during a shootout.

Police spokesman, SP Chris Anyanwu, said the shootout happened during a raid on the gunmen's hideout.

According to him, one person was arrested, with 13 hand grenades suspected to have been fabricated in Russia, among other items, recovered during the raid.

Anyanwu said the Tactical Team swooped on the camp of the hoodlums in Umuleje Amaeze, Nkalaha in the Ishielu Local Government Area.

He said one of the suspects arrested during the last raid on the IPOB/ESN camp also in the state, led the team

Ebonyi police kill 4 IPOB members, recover Russian-made grenades

to his colleagues' hideout in the forest.

The spokesman said on sighting the Tactical Team, the hoodlums opened fire on them.

According to him, two of the miscreants were killed on the spot during the ensuing gunfight, adding that others ran in different directions.

He said some of the hoodlums went into the market, shooting indiscriminately and looting some goods.

Anyanwu said youths in the village, in collaboration with vigilantes, apprehended one of the hoodlums, whom they were calling 'Unknown Gunmen' and handed him over to the police.

He said they also recovered 210 electrical detonators, two Lexus 300 Jeeps, five motorcycles, two pump action guns, many single barrel guns, ammunition, and about 30 pieces of military

uniform.

Anyanwu said that other items included IPOB uniforms, Biafran flag, and six bags of Indian hemp.

Chukwu David,
ABUJA

The Senate yesterday gave the Ministry of Interior a 24-hour ultimatum to defend N700 million collected from the Service Wide Votes (SWV) for the monitoring of Ondo and Edo Governorship elections.

The Chairman, Senate on Public Accounts Committee, Senator Mathew Urhoghide, gave the ultimatum to the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry, Dr S. Belgore following excuse by the ministry that the money would be accounted for by the Nigerian Civil Defence Corps (NSDC).

From available records,