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Gun Men Kill Police Raid Station In Abia

Posted by <u>Boni Okoro</u> on Sep 11th, 2009 and filed under <u>News</u>. You can follow any responses to this entry through the <u>RSS 2.0</u>. You can leave a response or trackback to this entry

Two Police officers attached to the Obingwa Divisional Police station, Umuobiakwa in Obingwa Local Government Area of Abia state have been killed by armed men suspected to be members of a criminal gang.

In another development, the Police in Abia State have arrested four teenagers in a bush in Umuahia where they were allegedly conducting the initiation rites.

News of the attack filtered into the state capital last Tuesday when the Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Ali Okechukwu, confirmed that the command actually lost two officers during the attack.

The hoodlums stormed the Police Station in the early hours of Saturday, September 5, 2009 in a Rambo movie style to free one of their gang members said to be held in detention by the police.

Witnesses said the assailants, in the process, sprayed the station with bullets while Police men, stunned by the surprise attack, took to their heels in search of safety.

The attackers were said to have shot their way into the detention room and freed the suspects but the PPRO said that the police were doing everything possible to track down the hoodlums and also re-arrest the escapee suspects.

Meanwhile, about five teenagers suspected to be members of a cult gang have been arrested by the Abia State Police Command in a joint operation with the state Vigilance Services (popularly known as Bakassi Boys.)

Outgoing Abia State Police Commissioner, Edgar Tam Nanakumo, who paraded the suspects Tuesday, said that they were nabbed at Amuzukwu area of Umuahia, the state capital, where they were initiating new members of the cult fraternity identified as the Bukaneers.

Nanakumo said that the teenage suspects, including two brothers, were rounded up at an initiation ceremony inside a bush at Amuzukwu village in Umuahia North Local Government Area following a tip off.

He said that on sighting the security operatives, the cult members attempted to escape but were caught by the Policemen.

The police boss gave the names of the suspected cultists as Ndubuisi Igbokwe, 16, Humphrey Onuigbo, 15, Udochukwu Ihemeudu, 16, Ikechukwu Ihemeudu 15, and Chidiebere Elijah, 16, adding that one of them is a student of Ibeku High School, Umuahia, while others are school drop outs.

In separate interviews with the suspects, they all denied the allegations levelled against them, saying they were out to collect money from one of their friends when the police arrested them.

Also paraded by the Police were seven suspected armed robbers and kidnappers, while items such as one locally made single-barrel short gun, three pump action guns, 20 live cartridges, one expended cartridge, eight handsets of different models and three identity (ID) cards of the Abia state Vigilance Services.

The police boss, who said that crime control and prevention had yielded fruitful results, added that police would not relent in the task of chasing away criminals from the state.

He, therefore, called on the state government to help the command with more vehicles and communication gadgets to accomplish their task.

Nanakumo used the forum to announce that he had been posted to Abuja, adding that the Commissioner of Police in-charge of Administration in Lagos Airport command, Mr. Jonathan Johnson, had been posted to replace him.

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