

attempted to return to try their luck once again. The most pathetic case was the killing of a victim, Mrs. Chioma Chukwura, a few days after she and her driver were abducted, and her corpse dumped in the bush along Azumini Road, Ukwu East council area. She was on her way from Calabar, Cross River State.

Crime Alert gathered that the woman's driver identified as Ike Chikodi, later escaped from the kidnappers and reported the incident to a police highway patrol team who took him to the location, but they discovered that the kidnappers had killed the woman and fled the area.

Sources hinted that the kidnappers may have suspected that the security agencies were on their trail and decided to kill the woman and dump her corpse in the bush. In another incident, a two-man kidnap gang abducted a driver, Mr. Ifeanyi John, whose car broke down at Usukpe Village along the Enugu/Port-Harcourt Expressway at Umuahia, bound his hands and feet and locked him up in the boot of their Toyota Corolla and drove away towards the direction of Imo State.

Collaboration with neighbouring Police Commands Crime Alert further gathered that luck, however, ran out on the gang when men from the Abia State Police Command, in collaboration with her counterpart in Imo State, rescued the victim at Obowo, Imo State following a tip-off by members of the public to Ubakala Police Station in Umuahia. One of the suspects, who gave his name as Ifeanyi Nwunni, 30, a native of Umafai, Imo State, was arrested, while the other suspect escaped.

### **Superior firepower**

In a bid to assert superiority, the Police in the state appear to have adopted the popular saying, 'the harder they come, the harder they fall'. On Sunday, November 16, 2015, four suspected kidnappers were shot dead in a clash with police at Uratta Primary School, Isiala Ngwa North Local Government of the state. The four were members of a gang of suspected kidnappers who attempted to kidnap a successful farm produce merchant in the area.

The gang who had allegedly perfected plans to kidnap their victim ran into the waiting hands of the Police who were monitoring the situation following a tip-off. On sighting the Police, the suspects opened fire on them. In the ensuing gun duel, four of the suspects were fatally wounded while others escaped. Among those nabbed by the Police include Chijioke Monday, who is a relation of their supposed victim.

### **Automatic rifles, charms recovered from kidnappers**

Items recovered from the suspected kidnappers include a double barrel shot gun with one expended and one live cartridge in its chamber; one locally made pistol with one expended round of cartridge in the chamber; twenty expended (empty shell) automatic rifle ammunition; seven expended cartridges; an ax, charms and wallets bearing an Alvan Ikoku Federal College of Education, Owerri, identity card bearing the name of Chimezie Olileanya of the Department of Education/Political Science. In another wallet was found INEC Voter's Card bearing the name of Gabriel Nwakodo.

### **Bullet wounds**

On suspects who might have fled police arrest with bullet wounds, the Police Public Relations Officer of the State Command, DSP Ezekiel Udeviotu Onyeke, urged medical practitioners to treat such persons, but they must not fail to report them to the nearest police station.

### **Robbery suspects arrested at poultry feed shop**