

Police raid IPOB/ESN hideout in Enugu

Meantime, the Police Command in Enugu State said it has raided an Indigenous People of Biafra (IPOB) and its Eastern Security Network (ESN) criminal hideouts in Akwuke axis of Enugu metropolis.

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The police operatives said they met with resistance from the renegades, who opened fire upon sighting them, but they were subdued by the superior firepower of the police, leading to the neutralisation of two of the renegades.

The command's spokesperson, DSP Daniel Ndukwe, said in a statement, yesterday, that the Police conducted the raid on Saturday at about 2:30 a.m. Ndukwe said other members of the group escaped with various gunshot wounds.

He said one AK-47 rifle, one Sub-Machine Gun (SMG), one stainless Pump-Action Gun (PAG), 27 live and 23 expended rounds of 7.62 mm calibre ammunition were recovered after the raid and gun battle.

According to him, police also recovered five live cartridges and a small blue-coloured Gideon New Testament Bible probably used to conceal objects suspected to be charms.

He said: "In pursuance of the proactive/crime prevention strategies devised by the state's Commissioner of Police, Mr Kanayo Uzuegbu, police operatives of Anti-Cultism Tactical Squad carried out an intelligence-guided raid of a suspected IPOB/ESN hideout in Akwuke community in Enugu metropolis.

"A preliminary investigation reveals that the breech number of the recovered AK-47 was wiped off.

"The criminal elements are responsible for several attacks and carting away of police officers' rifles, as the rifle's magazine bore the Nigeria Police Force colour. Further discreet investigations are ongoing."