

# Troops smash IPOB/ESN camps, neutralise 4, rescue 14

**E**NUGU—TROOPS of 82 Division Nigerian Army and the Joint Task Force South-East, code-named 'Operation UDO KA', have smashed camps of Indigenous People of Biafra and its Eastern Security Network, IPOB/ESN, armed wing within South-East.

The troops within days neutralized four IPOB/ESN armed men, rescued 14 people, and checked crude oil bunkering within the South-East.

This is contained in a statement issued by Lt-Col. Jonah Unuakhalu, Acting Deputy Director 82 Division Army Public Relations, on Wednesday in Enugu.

Unuakhalu said that troops of the 82 Division Nigerian Army and Operation UDO KA had continued to sustain their offensive against the IPOB/ESN criminals across the South-East.

He noted that in a series of well-executed operations, troops had successfully repelled and raided the irredentist hideouts as well as clamped down on the activities of illegal oil bunkers within its joint Operation Area.

According to him, early hours of Tuesday, Oct. 22, troops of Sector 5 of Operation UDO KA deployed at Forward Operational Base (FOB) Aguata with other security agencies while on routine patrol within Igbo Ukwu and Uga axis of Aguata council area of Anambra came in contact with members of IPOB/ESN.

"During the firefight, troops' superior firepower forced the criminals to flee in disarray. During the encounter, one IPOB/ESN member was neutralized, two black-coloured Lexus Jeeps with no

registration numbers, and one pump action gun with three cartridges were recovered.

"On Monday, Oct. 21, troops deployed at FOB Lilu also came in contact with the group after detonating the Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) planted along the supply route.

"The troops successfully neutralised two of the hoodlums, recovered one pump action shotgun, one solar CCTV camera, three large pipe-borne IED, seven IEDs, and eight batteries," he said.

Unuakhalu said that similarly, troops of the Joint Task Force on Wednesday, Oct. 9, stormed an IPOB/

ESN hideout in the Enugwu Umuonyia community in Aguata council area of Anambra.

He said that overwhelmed in the ensuing firefight, the terrorists fled, leaving behind a cache of arms and logistics.

"The troops swiftly searched and destroyed the hideouts, recovering 78 rounds of 7.62mm and 39mm ammunition, 13 rounds of 9mm ammunition, 20 live cartridges, a pump-action gun, a locally fabricated pistol, an AK-56 magazine, and six vehicles found within the camp.

"The vehicles were those stolen from well-meaning Igbo of the region by the criminal elements," he said.

## Sickle cell patients in Abia to receive monthly cash grants

By Steve Oko

**U**MUAHIA—WIFE of Abia State Governor, Mrs. Priscilla Otti, has announced health care insurance and monthly cash grants to persons living with sickle cell anemia in the state, to mitigate their plights.

Mrs Otti who announced this

while speaking at the 2024 Abia State Sickle Cell Anemia Day held at the Abia State Children's Specialist Hospital, Umuahia, expressed deep concern over the ordeals of persons living with sickle.

She also promised to appeal to her husband for action towards providing education assistance to persons living with sickle cell in the state.

The First Lady equally promised

without checking both your genotype and that of your spouse. Certain genotype combinations may lead to the birth of babies with sickle cell disease. This occurs if two incompatible persons get married."

## Job creation to discussions at footwear, leather