

Police kill 3 robbers in Port Harcourt

DENNIS NAKU, Port Harcourt

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Three armed robbery suspects were yesterday shot dead in two separate incidents in Port Harcourt, Rivers State capital, just as one of their victims was robbed of N10million in the D/Line area of the city.

The gang of four suspects were however accosted around the Mile Four area after a distress call was put across to the police, leading to a shootout, which resulted in the death of one of them.

Saturday Champion learnt that the three other members of the gang escaped, but the police recovered two AK47 rifles and magazines from the scene of the interception.

Spokesman of the State Police Command, Dr. (Mrs) Rita Inoma-Abbey, confirmed the incident in a text message to our correspondent.

In a related development, about 1300 hours (1pm), same day, four armed men operating in two vehicles stormed No 4B, Bodo Street in GRA Phase 2, Port Harcourt where they robbed the Director of Finance, Ikwerre local government area of the state, Mrs. Elizabeth Elewon,

According to the police image maker, "The robbers were pursued and engaged by alerted police patrol teams along Ikwerre Road, Mile 4 area. The two in a black Toyota Camry with registration number: Abia AQ887 UMA were gunned down.

"Two AK47 with 26 magazines each, loaded with 30 rounds of ammunition, were recovered. The sum of N3.7million and the above mentioned vehicle were recovered."

Meanwhile, the police have confirmed that four fire-fighters were hospitalised following early morning inferno, which gutted 'Happy Bite', a variety supermarket in the state capital on Thursday.

Speaking to newsmen on the incident, the police command said the firemen suffered suffocation and exhaustion while on a rescue mission during the fire incident and disclosed that the Criminal Investigation Department of the command was already investigating the cause of the fire.