

Kogi police kill 3 robbery suspects

TIMOTHY AJIBOYE, *Lokoja*

KOGI State police command has gunned down three suspected armed robbers along Ankpa-Anyigba road near Ikamekpo village during a gun battle with the men of the command's special anti-robbery patrol team.

Parading corpses of the suspects before newsmen

in Lokoja the state police commissioner, Alhaji Abdullahi Magaji explained that the five man armed robber gang mounted an illegal road block where they were robbed unsuspecting members of the public and motorists of their properties.

He said that luck however ran out of them when men of the special anti-robbery team

on receiving tip off of their operation moved to the scene to apprehend them, adding that on sighting the patrol team the robbers opened fire on them but they were overpowered by the superior fire power of the police team.

According to the police boss, "during the exchange of gun fire three of the gunmen were gunned down while

two of them escaped into the bush with various degrees of bullet wounds," adding that operatives of the command are now combing the bushes to smoke out the fleeing criminals.

"That particular road is a serious concern to the command based on the that fact we record robbery incidents on daily basis on the road.

This made us to map out a special plan to apprehend them, you can see that our plan has paid off with the gunning down of the hoodlums", Magaji noted.

He therefore advised members of the public to give useful information to the police, stressing that "police job is a collective responsibility as most of the hoodlums live within us also all landlords should report any suspecting tenants living in their houses to immediate action".

Items recovered from the robbers include two locally made pistols, six cartridges, two expended bullets, one dagger, three handsets and one bottle of locally brewed gin popularly known as "ogogoro".

Group makes case for women's right

SELYA YARNAP, *Bauchi*

A spate of efforts to highlight the plight of women in the society, the League for Human Right a non-governmental organisation with the support of the European Union, has strongly advocated for the rights of minority groups and women adding that it also seeks to address the violation of their rights and empower them to counter challenges whenever their rights are being trampled upon.

Addressing journalists in Bauchi, at a press conference with theme "Building The Capacity Of Women And Minority Groups To Address Systematic Human Rights Violation In Three States Of Bauchi, Yobe And Kastina" legal officer of the project, Gumut Edith Nankiling said that the

She disclosed that other activities conducted by the project include training workshops in the three target states with 110 human rights monitors and community activists, production of information, education and community materials and newsletters, in addition to the reproduction of toolkits (Monitoring and Reporting of human rights violation): a handbook for community activist.

The group's legal officer also stated that after implementing the activities, the survey revealed that respondents became conscious of their rights, but did not understand the context in which their rights were being violated or abused.

According to her, the

specific areas of the violation of these rights include forceful marriage, rape, extra-judicial killings, child labour, domestic violence, discrimination in politics, education, denial of right to vote and be voted for and freedom of worship.

Despite the success recorded by the project, she noted that it still faced some challenges ranging from lack of cooperation from government agencies, high level of illiteracy among the target group and eruption of violence/civil disturbances.

Nankiling then called on stakeholders, government and good spirited individuals, parents and guardians, ethnic and religious groups in the society to brace up with the challenge and partner with the project.