

Police kill 3 robbers, arrest 3 with explosives in Rivers

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Two suspected armed robbers operating in a gang of four have been killed by men of the Rivers State Police Command after an exchange of gunfire yesterday, while three other suspects were arrested with dangerous explosives.

Commissioner of Police in the State, Suleiman Abba, who paraded the suspects and the corpses to journalists in Port Harcourt yesterday, said the suspected robbers sustained fatal gunshot wounds when they engaged the police in a gun battle in separate robbery attempts on a liquor distributor shop and in Oyigbo area of Port Harcourt.

According to the Police Commissioner, one Mr. Obey Ikaah, who was arrested by a team of Police Anti Bomb Squared (EOD) and Anti Terrorist Squad Port Harcourt alongside his wife and one other person were found with 14 cartridges of Nitroerg gelatin high explosives, 1.25kg par cartridge, and 19 pieces of non-electric detonators about 100 meters of safety fuse.

“The suspect was arrested with 14 cartridges of nitroenrg gelatin high explosives of 1.25kg per cartridge making 17.5, 19 piece of non-electric detonators and about 100 metres of safety fuse.

“The Improvised Explosive Devices made of these materials are capable of sending a destructive pressure in form of shock waves to an area of 500 meters radius. They are used by hoodlums for bank robberies to break the vaults, strong room or iron doors as well as terrorist attacks on oil installations,” Abba said.

On the death of the suspected robbers, Abba said: “Today between 0930 hours, four armed robbers entered Casmarine Services, Liquor Distributor at no 474 Ikwerre Road, Rumuigbo, Port Harcourt. Our patrol team from Rumuepirikom Division rushed there swiftly and a gun battle between them ensued.

“The hoodlums escaped with bullet wounds while three Policemen sustained injuries, one serious.”

The commissioner said investigation is being intensified with the view to discovering the source of the dangerous explosive materials and also getting the two other robbery gang members.