

1 Benue: Police kill suspected robber in gun battle

From Hope Abah Emmanuel, Makurdi

The police in Benue State have killed one suspected armed robber during a gun battle in Makurdi metropolis.

Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), SP Catherine Anene, made the disclosure on Monday in a statement made available to journalists in Makurdi.

Anene also disclosed that four

other suspects of the robbery gang were arrested during the operation.

She said, "Following credible intelligence gathered about an armed robbery syndicate operating around Kighir, Kanshio and Adeke community (in Makurdi), officers from Operation Zenda JTF stormed their hideouts for a raid.

"On sighting the police, the group engaged them in an exchange of fire. In the process, one of the armed

robbers sustained gunshot injuries and was rushed to Teaching Hospital Makurdi where he was receiving treatment but eventually died and has been deposited at the hospital morgue.

"Other gang members arrested include: Tersoo Godwin Akatakpo aka. 'General', Gowon Akatakpo, Ikya Chahul Atseriyol and Terver Iortimdee. The suspects confessed that they are members of Junior

Vickings confraternity (JVC) as well as armed robbers."

The police spokeswoman listed items recovered from them to include: one single barrel gun, two locally made pistols, five live cartridges, four expanded empty shells of cartridges, two dane guns, one red beret with JVC logo and three handsets suspected to be stolen.

Anene added that the suspects would be charged to court as soon as