

CRIME NOTES

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RIVERS

VIOLENCE: Ten persons were feared killed in a fresh violence which rocked the suburb of Port Harcourt, for the second time in two weeks. The fresh mayhem was reportedly unleashed on residents by suspected cultists despite heavy presence of security operatives.

ABUJA

ARRESTED: Twelve persons have been arrested over their involvement in kidnappings in the nation's universities. Many wealthy Nigerians have lost huge amount of money to the kidnappers, some of whom are students.

OGUN

AUTO-CRASH: Five persons were feared dead following a fatal accident which occurred at Ogere. The bus, an 18-seater Hiace was said to be going to Lagos from Abeokuta when the incident happened.

DELTA

ROBBERY: There is insecurity for those travelling along Agbor - Abraka road as suspected armed robbers operate on daily basis in the area. The robbers, who are teenagers, operate freely as there was no police presence within the area.

LAGOS

ROBBERY: The spate of armed banditry in the state continued following a fresh attack on a Bureau De Change, leading to the loss of three lives. During the attack, several persons were injured as the robbers made away with huge sum of money.

ARRESTED: On August 15, at about 11:45pm, a team of anti-robbery policemen, while on patrol along Mobolaji Bank Anthony Road, sighted a commercial Volkswagen Mini Bus without registration number, driving against traffic from Maryland. On noticing police presence, some young men jumped out of the bus and reported to the police that they had been robbed by one Osimen Festus, male driver of the said bus and other unidentified gunmen along Sheraton-Opebi link road. One of the robbers and the driver were arrested, while others managed to escape.

FOILED: On August 16, at about 10pm, four armed men operating in one Opel car entered the sales section of Confectioneries, along Acme Road, Ogba in a bid to rob the place. Mobile Policemen on duty at the company exchanged gunfire with the hoodlums, who escaped with bullet wounds.

NABBED: On August 16, at about 10:20am, while on patrol along Igando-Iyana Iba road, officers of the federal highway patrol team arrested one Nathaniel Okechukwu, of no fixed address, with blood gushing out of his body. He was reported to have snatched an Audi S/car and a Vanagon Bus from a lady at Iba Housing Estate. He was allegedly caught in the act and beaten to a state of coma before the patrol team arrived at the scene, rescued and re-arrested the suspect. The two vehicles have been recovered.

RECOVERED: On August 16, at about 1:30am, a team of anti-robbery policemen from SCID Pant, while on patrol along Oshodi-Appa Expressway, accosted a grand Cherokee Jeep with five occupants, which was earlier snatched within the same area. After exchange of gunfire, the occupants escaped while the vehicle was recovered.

Similarly, on August 17, at about 12am, a team of anti-robbery Squad attached to Alakara Division, while on patrol along Alhaji Lasisi Street, Idi-Oro, Mushin received a distress call that a Toyota Avensis Car had been robbed by four armed men at Moshalashi Junction, Iponri. On sighting the police, one of the suspected robbers jumped out of the car, while the driver who gave his name as Obiora Madu Abuchukwu, confessed to have robbed victims who are yet to come forward.

RECOVERED ARMS: On August 21, at about 1:23am, an anti-robbery team attached to Epe division, while on stop-and-search at Itokin, spotted a Mazda bus and flagged it down for routine check. One Samusideen Oyeibanji was arrested with two locally made pistols and three live cartridges.

FOILED: On August 21, at about 11pm, an anti-robbery team attached to Ogudu division, while on patrol along Alapere- Ogudu Expressway, sighted gunmen robbing a victim in his Toyota Corolla S/car which the hoodlums forced to stop. But on noticing police presence, the hoodlums fled into a nearby bush, abandoning a pump action gun.

ARRESTED: On August 13, at about 1am, a team of anti-robbery policemen arrested one Remi Ajayi. During interrogation, he confessed to robberies that took place along Abeokuta Motor Road, Iyana-Ipaja to Alakuko axis of Lagos which led to the arrest of other members of his gang, including one Monsurat Oseni, female who was the armourer of the gangs. Five locally made pistols and twenty live cartridges were recovered.

On August 14, one Obiorah Eze Okafor was arrested for armed robbery. He confessed and mentioned a prostitute, Ngozi Erobel who lodged in a Hotel at Onireke, as his girl friend who was in possession of some properties he robbed. The said Ngozi was arrested and two CD players were recovered from her.

On August 20, at about 4pm, one Hassana Moses was arrested with one locally-made pistol, loaded with one live cartridge, at Afromedia Badagry Expressway, by some naval personnel. Investigation showed that she was taking the arms to some robbers.

WARNING: These days, female suspects play the roles of being used as baits by robbers, who harbour them, secure their arms and ammunition as well as nurse the injuries they sustained during encounters with policemen.