

① Police kill two, arrest suspected armed robber in Anambra

From Uzoma Nzeagwu, Awka

THE Police Command in Anambra State has crushed an armed robbery gang, who specialised in robbing motorists along highways in the state and environs.

Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Anambra State Police Command, DSP Ikenga Tochukwu, who disclosed this yesterday, said operatives engaged the dare devil gang in Onitsha on Sunday.

He said: "On December 5, about 0530 hours, Anambra Police Command operatives intercepted a three-man armed robbery gang operating around Idemili flyover, Obosi by Onitsha-Owerri Road.

"The hoodlums who were about to rob passengers travelling in a Toyota Sienna van opened fire on sighting the police. The operatives responded swiftly gunning down two armed suspects, later identified as Chinedu Okeri 'm' from Enugu and Chukwuebuka Orizu from Anambra State, while the third suspect, Abuchi Osim 'm' from Enugu State was arrested.

"Police recovered two locally made pistols, five cartridges and the tricycle that brought the gangsters to the crime scene."

He added that the arrested

suspect later led the operatives to their hideout in Atani Ogbaru Local Council, where Chinedu Ogunna 'm' (21), Arinze Chukwu 'm' (16) and Ebuka Ayazie 'm' (18) were arrested, who also claimed they belonged to the same cult group of the armed robbery gang.

He said the Commissioner of Police Anambra Command, Echeng Echeng, has assured that the Command has since re-strategized its policing strategy and ready to respond to any emergency and security challenges that may threaten life and property of people in the state especially during this yuletide season and beyond.

MEANWHILE, the Command has disclosed that more police checkpoints may be established across the state if the need arises to guarantee a crime-free festive season, as people from different parts of the country will be coming into the state for Christmas and new year celebrations.

Echeng, who spoke through the PPRO, stated that checkpoints were part of the strategies put in place to checkmate crimes, pointing out that intelligence officers would equally be deployed to gather intelligence on traffic control.