

Police Brace Up For Yuletide, Kill Three Robbers In Onitsha

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The Anambra State police said it is bracing up to safeguard life and property of the citizens of the state this yuletide just as three suspected armed robbers were shot down within the Onitsha police division last weekend.

The state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Mr. Fidelis Agbo (DSP) who revealed the police preparedness in Ogidi said that the dead robbers should sound as a warning to criminals operating in the state to relocate unless they are prepared to waste their lives.

The suspects had allegedly been terrorising inhabitants and commuters along the Ogbunike old tollgate end of Enugu/Onitsha Expressway.

Agbo noted that since the assumption of office of the incum-

bent state commissioner of police, Mr. John Haruna, most of the criminals have vacated the state for their safety, while those who proved tough were arrested and sent to jail.

He said that the command has mapped out more strategies to flush out the remaining stubborn ones within the yuletide season, to give law-abiding citizens adequate protection and rest of mind.

According to him, the two suspects had at about 2.12 p.m. last Thursday, allegedly stormed a filling station along the expressway and unleashed terror on innocent citizens, but following a distress call the Divisional Police Officer (DPO) at Ogidi, quickly swung into action and mobilised Federal Highway Patrol, Special Anti-Robbery Squad (SARS) and others, for quick intervention.

Agbo noted that the quick ac-

tion of the DPO yielded fruitful dividend as the teams rushed to the robbery scene and met the suspects in action which resulted in a gun battle between the police and the hoodlums, during which two of them were gunned down.

He confirmed that the suspects operated on a Kymco Motorcycle which was recovered from them after they were shot dead, and that the sum of N14,000 cash, two mobile telephone handsets, one Berretta pistol, 17 live ammunitions, some substances suspected to be charms and a necklace suspected to have been stolen from a victim, were recovered from the bandits.

In a similar development, the Divisional Police Officer of Central Police Station (CPS), Onitsha, Alhaji Angulu Usman, has commended members of the Onitsha

Main Market Vigilante Group for their assistance so far in arresting criminals in the market.

Usman made the commendation shortly after the police tracked down one of the three robbery suspects who were operating at Haruna Street.

The suspects, it was revealed were shooting sporadically and robbing traders when the police, with the assistance of the vigilante group accosted them and in an exchange of gunfire, one of the hoodlums sustained serious injury and was arrested, while two others escaped.

The injured robber later gave up the ghost at the CPS, the police said, adding that while they would ensure that those abiding by the law in their businesses and individual lives were given adequate protection, hoodlums would have it tough until they find another abode.