

Police Raid Anambra Black Spots

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Barely one week after a gang of armed bandits stormed Nkwo Nnewi auto spear parts market and made away with over N15 million, the Anambra State Police command Tuesday, launched a raid in Onitsha, which led to the death of an alleged armed robbery suspect, while four others reportedly escaped with bullet wounds.

The suspects who from police account were among the gang involved in robbery operations along Nnewi-Ihiala-Ozubulu flash points were said to have relocated to Onitsha following intensive man-hunt by the Special Anti-Robbery Squad (SARS), shortly after the Nnewi robbery incident.

Parading one of the suspects at the state command headquarters in Awka, the Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Mr. Fidelis Agbo said that the hoodlums were apprehended on Monday,

while on one of their operations.

"Yesterday, a truck went to Oka-oil fuel station to drop oil. Afterwards, some bandits operating with a bus doublecrossed the Jetta car belonging to those that came to drop the truck, believing that the owner of the filling station had paid them. When they were told that no money was given to them they embarked on indiscriminate shooting during which the occupants of the Jetta car sustained injuries. Presently they are in the hospital receiving medical treatment. The Anti-Robbery Squad based on a tip-off launched attack on the bandits," he said.

Before then, he explained, the squad had raided major flashpoints in Onitsha in search of the bandits that took part in the Nnewi operations, which resulted in an exchange of fire between the police and the bandits.

"But we had superior fire power and that resulted in the death of one of the gang

members, while the rest, about four of them escaped with bullet wounds', he said.

Agbo further said that the command has gone into further investigation, adding that the success story recorded was due to the assistance of members of the public.

Items recovered from the bandits, he said, included two magazines, one axe, 50 expended bullets and cartridges adding that the command has also commenced surveillance on private hospitals and cottage hospitals within Onitsha, Ogbaru and Obosi towns based on expectations that the wounded bandits might visit those areas for medical attention.

Agbo further promised that in no distant time all those involved in the Nkwo Nnewi robbery operation would be rounded up, adding that very vital information have already been gathered by the command investigative department at both Nnewi and Awka in that regard.