

Police Kill One Robber, Arrest 27 Others

By Wisdom Patrick and Femi Ogbonnikan, Lagos

An armed robber was at the weekend shot dead during a gun battle with policemen in Lagos.

Sources disclosed that the robbers, two in number, were operating on a motorcycle along Iba-Igando Road on Saturday. They opened fire on Anti-Robbery operatives attached to Ojo Division when they were accosted and asked to stop.

The operatives latter responded in self-defence and at the end of the shoot out, one of the robbers was hit, while the other escaped with bullet wounds.

Similarly, while on routine patrol along Oyeleke Street, Alausa, Ikeja on Sunday, a team of Anti-Robbery operatives smashed a gang of two-robbers operating on an unregistered motorcycle.

It was gathered that when the robbers were waved down for a check, they jumped off and abandoned the motorcycle and a sack before taking to their heels.

But after a hot pursuit, the two robbers, who gave their names as

Ndubuisi Samson, a resident of No. 4B, Ilamoye Street, Ileshatedo and Abubakar Suleiman, were arrested.

A search conducted on the bag led to the recovery of three Pump Action Rifles (PARs), two SMC rifles and a locally made short gun.

Police Command Spokesman, Olubode Ojajuni, confirmed the arrest of the two suspects as well as the killing of the suspected robber.

Meanwhile, 27 suspected armed robbers have been arrested by policemen attached to the Special Anti-robbery Squad (SARS) under the command of the State Commissioner of Police (CP) Mohammed Abubakar.

The arrest was effected at the weekend from various locations, such as Ketu/Alapere, Idimu, Ikotun/Egbe, and Bariga.

Police sources said 47 guns, including AK 47 assault rifles and ammunitions were recovered from the hoodlums when a search was carried out on their hideouts.

Police sources said eight out of the 27 suspects were arrested at Bariga.

The source added that the success recorded so far in the war against the men of the underworld

is as a result of the new spirit injected into the system by the new state police boss.

It was gathered that the operations were carried out in one night with the state commissioner of police monitoring proceedings and given his officers and men tips on how to carry out the raids. *Daily Independent* learnt further that, at all the hideouts visited by the police, there was no resistance by the criminals, as they were caught napping.

It would be recalled that, the new police commissioner had said that one of the strategy he would adopt to rid the state of criminals is constant raid of suspected black spots.

"This is where these boys regroup to plan their evil job, before they rob people of their hard earned money and other valuables", he had said.

Ojajuni also confirmed the raid, even as he added that the entire exercise was part of the new spirit which the state police boss brought to bear in the policing of Lagos.

He added that, those arrested would soon be charged to court after proper screening exercise that would separate innocent persons.