

Police Battle Kidnappers, Robbers In PH, Kill Two Suspects, Recover AK-47 Rifle

By Andrew Utulu On May 20, 2023

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LAGOS – The operatives of the Rivers State Police Command said they engaged suspected kidnappers and armed robbers in a gun battle, killing two members of the gang and recovered one AK-47 rifle and 18 live ammunition.

Grace Aringe-Koko, Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Rivers State Police Command, confirmed the incident.

Aringe-Koko, a Superintendent of Police (SP), said the operation was carried out by C4i Intelligence Operatives of the Rivers State Police Command in the early hours of Friday, May 19, 2023, when the team raided a suspected kidnappers' hideout at Oyigbo/Igbo-Etche Forest.

“The Operatives were acting on actionable intelligence gathered on the kidnapping gang.

“Upon sighting the Police team the hoodlums opened fire on them.

“During the gun duel that lasted for about an hour, the gang leader, who was later identified as Aka Blacky, was fatally wounded. Another suspect identified as Peter Nwafor was shot while trying to escape.”

The police image maker added that the two suspects were taken to the University of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital where they were confirmed dead by the doctor on duty. She said their corpse have been deposited at the UPTH mortuary.

According to her, the gang was linked to the kidnap of a woman and her daughter on March 18, 2023 along Garrison, Port Harcourt.

“It would be recalled that two members of the gang had earlier been arrested.

“Exhibits recovered at the scene include 1 AK-47 rifle and 18 live ammunition,” Aringe-Koko said.

Meanwhile, residents of the state have been advised to remain supportive, law-abiding, and vigilant as well as promptly report acts of crime and criminality to the nearest police station or by calling the command's emergency hotlines on 08032003514 and 08098880134.