

Delta: Police In Gun Battle With Robbers, Kill 1

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An armed robbery suspect last week met his Waterloo as he was shot dead by the police in a gun battle along Kwale expressway by Oloh village junction, in Aniocha South local government area of Delta State.

It was gathered that the gang members had been on an armed robbery spree, robbing innocent people at gun point, daily.

An eyewitness told LEADERSHIP that they were coming from Kwale when the robbers, who were believed to be more than 10, blocked both sides of the road, while robbing motorists and passers-by and shooting sporadically.

They were said to have robbed their victims of their money and other possessions in the process of which many sustained injuries.

However, nemesis caught up with them when the police

stormed the scene and engaged the hoodlums in a gun battle, following which the suspected leader of the gang was shot dead.

Some of the gang members seeing their boss felled by police bullet, took to their heels, and escaped into the bush abandoning him to battle for his life before the police put him in their patrol van with the aim of taking him to a hospital.

The eyewitness said blood was gushing out of the suspect's nose and mouth before he gave up the ghost.

He alleged that the suspect and the gang members had been troubling the people for a very long time and had turned the Kwale expressway to their office as "they carried out armed robbery operations everyday on the road."

Speaking on the matter, the state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), DSP Celestina

Kalu, said while a Dragon Patrol Team was on patrol on the road, they received information that a gang of armed robbers were operating on the expressway at Oloh village junction.

Based on the information, she said, the team mobilised to the scene and, on sighting the officers, the hoodlums opened fire on them and in a gun duel that followed, the gang leader was fatally wounded, while others escaped with bullet injuries, into a nearby bush.

Kalu stated that the suspect, who was fatally injured, eventually gave up the ghost on the way to the hospital.

The police image-maker said items recovered from the hoodlums include one English, made double barrel gun, six live cartridges, and three cutlasses, adding that efforts were on to arrest the fleeing members of the gang, while investigation had commenced.