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# Owoseni: Three suspected robbers killed in one month

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The suspected rapists

## Owoseni: Three suspected robbers killed in one month




Mrs Okoronkwo Ajose

The suspected rapists

Three suspected armed robbers were killed and 43 others arrested in the last four weeks in Lagos, Police chief Fatai Owoseni said yesterday. The three, he said, were killed in gun duel with the police.

Briefing reporters at the command headquarters in Ikeja, Owoseni said five suspected kidnappers and 46 cultists were arrested during the period. Twenty-eight robberies were foiled.

According to him, 10 arms, 208 rounds of live ammunition and 12 vehicles were recovered.

A woman allegedly luring 10-year-old girls and teenagers into prostitution inside a Surulere hotel was arrested.

Twenty six of the 46 suspected cultists, Owoseni said have been charged to court.

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He said the command would continue to collaborate with other agencies to ensure security of lives and properties.

“Fourty sixwere picked up for cultism and street fighting; most of them are members of the Aiye and Eiyeconfraternities. Of the others, some are armed robbery suspects;three are suspected rapists and a professional prostitute who went about picking teenagers and forcing them into prostitution.

“She was arrested at a hotel, Nnobi Street, Ikate, Surulere for recruiting secondary school girls for sex trade. The victims have been united with their families.

But the suspected child sex trafficker, Chinonso Okoronkwo denied the allegation, insisting that she had never seen the girls she was accused of luring into prostitution.

The suspect, who claimed to bea widow with two children, said she usually came to the hotel from Port Harcourt to prostitute to enable her raise money, buy some goods and return to her base.

She said: “I am innocent of the allegation. I do not even know the children they accused me of forcing into prostitution. I am a widow with two children, I am a Christian and I am a member of the church.”

into prostitution. I am a widow and I have two children. Life became difficult after I lost my husband and so I had to hustle. When I told one of my friends about my predicament, she brought me to Lagos and took me to the hotel where she introduced me to the management.

“They gave me a room where I hustle,I am just trying to survive. I am crying because my parents and others who know me do not know that I engage in prostitution in Lagos. They just know that I come to Lagos to buy goods which I sell back in Port Harcourt. Now, they will see me in the news for something I did not even do. I don't know anything about the school girls. I used to see many girls in the hotel. They would come in school uniforms and change to mufti. After sleeping with customers, they change back to their uniforms.

“I don't know the arrangement between them and the hotel management. I was arrested with others when the police raided the hotel. Others have been released and I don't know why the police are still keeping me. I want to beg the police and the journalists not to expose me as I am hiding here and I don't want people to know what I am doing.”

**Suspected cultists**

Bright Ogogo, 25, Akeem Ishaq, 31, and SodiqArolu, 19, admitted that they are members of the Black Axe confraternity alias AYE.



They said they were arrested inside a Honda saloon car marked AGL257BA belonging to Ogogo at Ajegunle.

The suspects, who were found with charms, two axes, two locally made short guns and three live cartridges, claimed they did not know thatAzeez, who escaped had all those exhibits inside his bag.

**Suspected rapists**

Samuel Akpan, 34, Michael Lanre, 21, and Shola Owolabi, 28, were arrested at 7, Kaka Street, Ayobo, after allegedly gangraping a 16-year-old girl.

They allegedly did a video recording of the sexual assault.

Their victim was lured to Akpan's home by her supposed boyfriend.

According to Akpan, the boy told them that their victim was a 'street' girl and that they can do what they desire of her.

Lanre and Owolabi said they were invited by Akpan to have a feel of the girl, adding that they were reported by Akpan's landlord.

**Suspect denies kidnap allegation**

A serial fraudster, Azeez Ajoye denied kidnapping OwolabiBarakat and forcing to release her elder sister's Automated Teller Machine (ATM) card and pin number, which was used to withdraw N500,000 from the account.

Ajoye said she was tricked into believing there's quick money to be made.

“I am a local 419. I am in the business with my friends Wasiu and Friday. We toasted her and she fell for it. She willingly followed us and when we told her there's a chemical that can wash a paper to become money, she was willing to cooperate.

“She went to their house and brought the ATM card. She also gave us the pin. We did not force her,” he said.

The suspect was alleged to have accosted his victim on July 8, at about 7am, while she was going to work and trick her on a motorcycle to Ile-Epo, near Iyana Ipaja.

According to the police, the girl was incarcerated and robbed of N10,000 cash, while her sister, NuratBanire's Eco-Bank ATM card was forcefully collected at a hotel in Isolo.

“There, the hoodlums took the ATM card and withdrew N100,000 cash. They later went into a supermarket at Isolo where they bought things and paid through P.O.S. (Point Of Sale) amounting to N403,000.

“The items they bought include three bags of rice, three water dispensers, one children bicycle, three standing fans and three sets of cooking pots.

“The girl was later released to go home without the ATM card. It was the elder sister who reported the matter when she couldn't see the younger one but kept receiving alerts on her phone,” said the police.

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