

Stray bullet kills trader

MR. Rufus Agwu, a spare parts dealer was yesterday in Nyanya, near Abuja, killed by a stray bullet.

The incident was confirmed by the Public Relations Officer of FCT Police Command, Mr. Ahmed Musa, during a press conference.

Musa said that one Mr. Onyemah Ani, a trader at Nyanya market, who was attacked by robbers early this morning, alerted the police patrol team at Nyanya/Keffi road who went on trail of the hoodlums.

"It was in the process of pursuing the thieves that the police fired at one of them, but unfortunately, the bullet hit an innocent person," Musa said.

"The fortunate thing is that five, out of the six man gang were caught and the case is currently with the Deputy Commissioner of Police, Mr. Simeon Midenda of the Crime Investigation Division," he said.

He listed members of the gang as Alex Joseph, Patrick

Odey, Michael Chiedu, Sunday Samuel and Frank Joseph, while one is still at large.

Musa said that Agwu's corps had been deposited in an undisclosed mortuary for autopsy.

The News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) learnt that Agwu, who resides in Onitsha, was in Abuja to buy condemned motor parts, when he met his untimely death.

His friend, Mr Franklin Nonyelu, said that Agwu had concluded his mission before he was shot to death at about 9:30 a.m.

"It happened that the police were chasing a gang of armed robbers and in the process, one of them ran past where Agwu and his friend were sitting.

"In an attempt to shoot the armed robber, the police bullet hit Agwu.

"As it stands, I am in possession of his mobile phone and we have contacted some of his relatives to inform them of the development," Nonyelu said



Picknickers enjoying themselves at the Gamji Park, Kaduna yesterday to mark the Boxing Day.

Photo: GBENGAABIOLA

4 robbery suspects gunned down on Christmas day

FOUR suspected armed robbers were killed in a shoot-out with the police in two separate robbery operations in the Lagos on Christmas day.

A News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) correspondent learnt that two of the suspected robbers were killed at Apapa while robbing innocent persons on Wharf Road.

Some members of the gang who were operating on motorcycles, however, escaped during the exchange of gunfire with the police.

Two other suspected robbers were said to have been killed in Shomolu area, while two others escaped.

A resident at Shomolu told NAN that they thought the sound they heard was from fireworks, but when the exchange of gun fire between the police and the suspected robbers stopped, they knew it was gun shots.

The Deputy PPRO, Mr

Olumide Jimoh, confirmed that two suspected robbers were killed in Apapa on Christmas day, but said he had not received the report from Shomolu.

Jimoh said one locally made pistol, one motorcycle and a GSM handset were recovered from the suspected robbers during the Wharf Road incident