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Police kill 4 kidnappers in Edo

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EDO State police command, on Monday, killed four suspected kidnappers in two separate operations in the state and rescued one of the kidnapped victims.

The command, in a statement signed by the state Police Public Relations Officer, Joseph Edoigiawerie, on behalf of the state Commissioner of Police, Foluso Adebanjo, stated that operatives of the command, acting on a tip-off, intercepted

a gang of kidnappers at Kojo Road, off Ikpoba Hill, Benin City, the state capital.

According to the statement, the alleged kidnappers, on sighting the presence of police, opened fire in a bid to escape, but the police engaged them in a gun duel, during which four of them sustained fatal injuries, while others took to flight.

The statement added that three of the four kidnappers died while being rushed to the hospital for treatment, after they had confessed to the crime of carrying out many kidnappings within Benin City and its environs.

Items recovered from them included two automatic pump action guns, 34 live cartridges, one AK-47 rifle magazine and and 96 7.62mm live ammunition.

In the second operation same day, the police raided a gang of kidnappers, who abducted one of the occupants of a vehicle they robbed on the Benin/Auchi bypass.

"On getting the information, the police quickly mobilised and combed the entire stretch of the area. During the process, the kidnappers shot severally, but police superior fire power got one of them, who later gave up the ghost while others escaped with bullet wounds," the command stated.

One pump action gun and nine live cartridges were recovered from the kidnappers.

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