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## Police kill 3 armed robbers, recover rifle <sup>3</sup> in Benue

THE Police Command in Benue State on Tuesday said it killed three armed robbers and recovered one AK-47 rifle with breech no. M35085 and four AK-47 magazines with 127 rounds of 7.62 live ammunition.

The command's spokesman, ASP Moses Yamu, said this in a statement made available to the ***News Agency of Nigeria (NAN)*** in Makurdi.

According to Yamu, the criminal gang which specialised in robbery and

kidnapping around Katsina-Ala-Abaji-Takum axis, were killed during a gun battle between the criminal gang and a combined team of Operation Zenda.

He said the encounter followed a security tip-off.

"The gang is believed to be responsible for the attack on Abaji Police station, killing a police sergeant and carting away his rifle.

"A combined team of Operation Zenda crack squad led by SP Justine Gberindyer stormed the hood-

lums' hideout, and the hoodlums opened fire on sighting the team.

"During an exchange of gunfire, three members of the gang were fatally hit by bullets; they were apprehended and later confirmed dead.

"Items recovered from them were an AK-47 rifle with breech no. M35085; four AK-47 magazines with 127 rounds of 7.62 live ammunition; criminal charms and a bag containing some clothes," the statement read.