

# Five suspected robbers killed in gun duel with police in Delta

**Ebenezer Adurokiya | Warri**

FOUR suspected armed robbers have been killed during a gun duel with operatives of the Delta State police command.

This is just as four armed robbery and kidnap suspects were also arrested by police operatives led by the Divisional Police Officer (DPO) of Ekpan division, Aliyu Shaba.

The state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO),

Bright Edafe, in a statement on Thursday, said: "On September 23, at about 10:30a.m., while acting on credible intelligence, the Commissioner of Police in Delta State, Wale Abass, detailed the DPO of Ekpan to follow up on the intelligence.

"Consequently, the DPO, Aliyu Shaba, led a team of police operatives in a sting operation to the hideout of a notorious armed robber, Momotimi and his gang

members in Rivers State, in a combined effort with operatives of the River State police command's Rapid Response Team (RRT), where they arrested the said Momotimi (32), a native of Morogun community in Warri, alongside three of his gang members.

"Preliminary investigations revealed that the suspects were planning an armed robbery operation in Warri before their arrest.

"Among his gang members

is a Point of Sale (POS) operator who also provides the gang with information about potential kidnap victims.

"Items recovered from the suspects included one Toyota Camry car and three POS machines.

"The CP directed the suspects to be transferred to the Special Anti-Kidnapping and Cyber Crime Squad (SAKCCS) for further investigation," Edafe said.

Meanwhile, the police image-maker said the four

robbery suspects were killed by the police when their gang members ambushed the operatives.

Edafe said: "On September 27, at about 6:42p.m, the suspects led operatives to their hideout in Warri,

but on their way, the operatives were ambushed by hoodlums suspected to be members of the gang in a bid to rescue them.

"They engaged the operatives in a gun duel and in the ensuing gunfight, the

operatives subdued and repelled the attackers: two police officers sustained gunshot injuries, however, the four suspects, in a bid to escape, ran into the cross-fire and sustained gunshot injuries.

"They were taken to the General Hospital in Kwale, where they were certified dead by the doctor on duty.

"When the area was combed, a corpse suspected to be one of the attackers was recovered."