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# Police kill six armed robbers in Rivers

March 6, 2012 by Chukwudi Akasike, Emmanuel Obe and Temitayo Famutimi [31 Comments](#)



Police on Monday killed six members of an armed robbery gang in Port Harcourt, Rivers State.

The hoodlums were said to have snatched N2.1m from a businessman who had gone to one of the new generation banks on Olu Obasanjo Avenue to withdraw the money.

An eyewitness said the armed robbers, who trailed the victim from the bank in a white Toyota Hilux vehicle, overtook him before taking the money from him at gunpoint.

On getting wind of the robbery, a police patrol team reportedly moved to the spot to confront the robbers.

The eyewitness said the suspects opened fire on the police, leading to an exchange of gunfire, creating commotion on Olu Obasanjo Avenue and Orugbum Crescent, New Port

Harcourt GRA.

The state Deputy Commissioner of Police, Administration, Mrs. Diseye Nsirim, said a Kia Cerato car snatched by the robbers was used by the hoodlums in the operation.

She said, “At about 12.25pm, a man in a black Ford Ranger jeep went to Access Bank, Olu Obasanjo Way and withdrew the sum of N2.1m. On his way back to his office, along Orogbum Crescent, he was overtaken by the armed robbers driving in a white Hilux car.

“They robbed him of the whole money and there was a distress call to the Rivers State Police Command as the robbers were running away.

“As the robbers were escaping with their loot, they engaged the police in a fierce gun battle and at the end six of them were fatally wounded.”

Nsirim also said two of the vehicles – a white Toyota Hilux van and a Kia Cerato, two AK-47 riffles with three magazines, 10 rounds of 3.8 special ammunition, two number plates and N500,000 were recovered from the suspects.

She described the suspects, whose remains were displayed at the State Police Command, as having terrorised the state in recent times. Nsirim said no policeman lost his life during the gun duel adding that the swift response from the police command was planned and well-executed.

Meanwhile, the peace of Onitsha, the commercial hub of Anambra State was shattered on Monday when a gang of armed robbers killed two people, wounding two policemen in front of a bank along the New Market Road

The deceased were a young woman, said to be taking a huge sum of money to the bank, and the commercial motorcycle rider, who was taking her to the bank.

The policemen were guarding the bank at the time of the attack. The incident sent people around the area scampering to safety.

A witness said the five-man gang, who operated on motorcycles, had apparently trailed the women on her way to the bank.

*THE PUNCH* learnt that while she was alighting from the

motorcycle, the robbers struck. They fatally shot the young lady and the motorcyclist. They also shot at the two policemen that were attached to the bank.

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- *seekergolden* March 6, 2012 at 12:27 am

I always say it Nigeria Police lacks intelligence. Police shooting should stop how can police confront armed robbers in broad day light where innocent people are, we should appreciate lives you don't toy with people's lives because stray bullet is real. Besides, police if intelligent and skilled could have apprehended these hoodlums without there death. How sure are we that some of them did not escaped or they still have their gangs somewhere?

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gerald0 March 6, 2012 at 6:20 am

The robbers just robbed someone of N2.1m but the police could only find N500.000 on them.

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Nigeriamustgivebirth Split March 6, 2012 at 2:10 am

People should now invest in head to toe Bullet proof exactly the type worn by 2 men of American 44 minutes, even if one is sleeping shoul try and put it on. This becomes obvious because we are in th era of Gunmen and days of Boko Haram no one knows when bullets will be knocking @ heart.

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Dean March 6, 2012 at 2:41 am

It is reported that they snatched 2.1 million and the police said they recovered 500.000, pls where re the rest of the money?

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Imoh Essien March 6, 2012 at 5:23 am

It a gud development, if the police wil b ready to battle

dose bandits lik, d sky wil nt onli b dier limit

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● *Chidi* March 6, 2012 at 5:28 am

Insider job at Access bank... Else poor security allowed spies posing as customers to mingle with genuine customers at pay points. Police can easily solve this crime if the bank has closed-circuit TV as well as record of transactions (for robbers that fake genuine presence by making small cash withdrawals). All “customers” and bank officials during teh time and around the vicinity where the victim withdrew his cash are genuine suspects.

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○ *evans* March 6, 2012 at 12:20 pm

there is no insider job,it is unfortunate for the man

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● *Bad roads in lagos* March 6, 2012 at 6:06 am

How can robbers steal 2.1 million and the police recovered 500 thousand naira,its really ridiculous thing.There is no transparency in this report,where is the remaining money?Not one of the robbers escaped and you are giving us cock and bull story,who collected the balance?



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*Kennedy* March 6, 2012 at 6:09 am

Frankly,i don't believe anything that comes from the police because they are also theives in uniforms. The may even kill innocent people and label them criminals terrorism the community. Remember the 6 Apo killing in Abuja. Believe me,you can never trust a policeman.

[Reply](#) [Link](#) [Quote](#)



*Orabe Dennis* March 6, 2012 at 6:36 am

Greed and this attituds of i must make money come what may leads people to their early grave. Therefore,let people especialy the youth think of honourable and decent ways to acquire wealth.

[Reply](#) [Link](#) [Quote](#)



*Thomas* March 6, 2012 at 7:01 am

I salute the courage of the policemen that carried out this operation. I was near the location of the shooting while it was happening. They displayed gallantry. However, they should produce the balance of the money for the owner because the robbers had no chance of spending out of the money.

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• *Mac Chidi* March 6, 2012 at 7:24 am

Armed robbers shot dead. Am wondering if this move is to checkmate robbery? Will it not be better if the police try shooting to wound, then arrest, and get intel. This will lead to arrests of kingpins, shoot to kill can delay total solution becos intel will be lost

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◦ *gwandi* March 6, 2012 at 6:30 pm

should u go and be enlisted into NPF to arrest robbers alive and stop making comment at the backyard as a good nigerian.

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• *dean Taylor* March 6, 2012 at 7:44 am

The question is what happened to the N2.1 million that was robbed from the victim after the robbers were killed. The only mention of money in this report is that the sum of N500,000 was recovered from the suspects by the police. What about the balance? They had not spent any dime as they were killed trying to escape. Let the police involved kindly explain this, if they are serious about laundering their image.

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Power March 6, 2012 at 7:56 am

Nigeria police are not reliable, if I may ask, how did this robbers get Ak 47 gun, the police knows why they kill them.

[Reply](#) [Link](#) [Quote](#)



justin frank March 6, 2012 at 8:10 am

I believe these respondents who castigate Police actions do not have relations in the Police. Let us encourage them even if they have not done very well. Have we not seen situations where 500,000 is stolen and the victim claims 5,000,000? Is it not the same Police that will investigate to ascertain the actual sum withdrawn, time lag and movements and stoppages made if any? Every one at one time or the other must have been involved in one shady deal or the other including peeping at someones answer script during exams. Confronting dare devil armed robbers takes a lot of courage hence I implore all respondents to try and frustrate every attempt at robbery and escape of robbers rather than sitting on the fence with sharpened pencils waiting to criticize the actions of law enforcement agents. Do we think if government at the centre has done well in their responsibility to protect lives and property the Policeman will have the guts to constitute nuisance on the roads? Where are the fuel dumps for patrol vehicles to draw fuel from? Where are the government designated workshops for the vehicles to be maintained? Where are the dry

rations to sustain the men on special duties? Was it not a private boat that army officers used to patrol the waterways the other day in which a Lt. Col. lost his life? At the mission areas during peacekeeping operations peacekeepers do not wash or iron their clothes themselves. Patrol vehicles are readily available and the take home allowances of these men can adequately take them home. Why won't they do well?

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● *sharknism* March 6, 2012 at 8:36 am

seeker golden,if u can't thank d police 4 a job welldone,u just up ur dirty mouth.

[Reply](#) [Link](#) [Quote](#)



○ *seekergolden* March 6, 2012 at 9:36 am

What if you are in the vicinity when the gun battle occurred and you were hit by stray bullets even though you did not die but you saw the younger brother of death. Have you ever seen or heard in recent times in the US for example where let say NYPD start shooting at fleeing felon? No that cannot happen because in *Tennessee v. Garner* (1985) the Supreme Court of the United States held that police can only shoot at a fleeing felon if he poses threat to the police or the environment, and if it happens there is consequence. There should be standard and quality of life in Nigeria. Additionally, the case is not solved yet, we are not told the numbers of armed

robbers that robbed the bank and what happened to the missing money. Is the businessman lying? Did the police took out of the money? Was the money carted away by the remaining armed robbers that escaped if there is any?

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*noble* March 6, 2012 at 11:52 am

@ seekergolden: the easiet thing to do in life is to criticize people.. try to figure out something good and start changing ur mindset about Nigeria police.. Refer back to the article ...“As the robbers were escaping with their loot, THEY ENGAGE the police in a fierce gun battle and at the end six of them were fatally wounded.” if police did not rescue the operationk, u will aslo complain..Are u sure the man actually withdrew 2.1 million.. when u have so many unanswered questions why are u then putting the blame on the police.. Allow them to finish the investigation process before u castigate anybody

[Link](#) [Quote](#)



*seekergolden* March 6, 2012 at 9:24 pm

@noble “On getting wind of the robbery, a police patrol team reportedly moved to the spot to confront the robbers.” Safety should be the main concern of the police. Am not saying they should not perform their duty but they have to perform it in a civilized manner. Thank God that innocent

people were not injured as well as the police.

[Link](#) [Quote](#)



- *Mr. zekeli, E. Adams* March 6, 2012 at 8:51 am

God will cash them very soon. They cannot run away forever.

[Reply](#) [Link](#) [Quote](#)



- *Joseph Sam T* March 6, 2012 at 9:34 am

We shld try nd undastand dat police ar human being too nd so needs our suport nd encoragement somtims rada dan crusifiction always.Remember we all hav our DIRTY DEALS we play in our offices too.Na who dem catch b thief.

[Reply](#) [Link](#) [Quote](#)



- *Bamgbose* March 6, 2012 at 9:58 am

The police in PH tried, for them to have face the robbers and get them at the same time recover the money stolen from that woman. Thank you for job well done, please keep it up.

[Reply](#) [Link](#) [Quote](#)



-

*Mr Geoffery Anunobi* March 6, 2012 at 10:36 am

Na wa oooo 4 Nigerian police oooo. How come 2.1 MILLION don automatically be 500k? huh

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• *Mayor Ordunze* March 6, 2012 at 11:52 am

Honestly, I must appreciate the officers who performed gallantly to make sure that the stolen money was recovered and the pilfery were caught. Moreso, Those who criticized the activities of the police have gotten it wrong completely, I didn't see any reason why my fellow Nigerian doesn't like the police no matter what the do, I pray to God that you will never be a victim of armed robbers, there you will know the value of the police. IF YOU HATE THE POLICE NEXT TIME YOUR IN TROUBLE CALL THE TUGS, they will render help to you. god bless you

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• *david* March 6, 2012 at 12:31 pm

wicked pple,  
wicked nation.

If u see most there is no job,  
and those pple 99.9% of them are graduate looking for  
their way!

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- *david* March 6, 2012 at 12:35 pm

so who are we to be blame? The government who are making the feature ones to be surfer or, the arm rubbers?

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- *adam* March 6, 2012 at 3:33 pm

kennedy u are the most foolish and needless creature on the earth, coz u clearly showed dat u r stupid n illetrate,4nt apreceiving d effort of d security mumu

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- *Etinosa ehigiator* March 6, 2012 at 4:21 pm

I understand that Nigerian police officers on peace keeping missions overseas perform creditably better than their colleagues from other countries. But back home, they are close to being a night mare. Something is not right with our home environment.

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- *Mbaise* March 6, 2012 at 6:03 pm

In nigeria,i'v learnt not to believe everything i hear esp from d so called media house and d NPF.



N2.1m stolen and within minutes, still in d car, N500k seen.  
Magical police.

[Reply](#) [Link](#) [Quote](#)



• gwandi March 6, 2012 at 6:41 pm

Is either the reporter has succeeded in confusing his readers by nt giving the acct. of the 2.1m, which is intact, and displayed unbalanced report, and the public that dont want hear anything good about the Police. Well, police is a typical replica of a nigeria man and the society at large.

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