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Police tackle robbers in Calabar, kill one

DECEMBER 3, 2014 BY MUDIAGA AFFE ■ [LEAVE A COMMENT](#)
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The IRS vehicle
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An unidentified suspected armed robber was gunned down on Tuesday by officers of the Cross River State Police Command who acted on distress call from residents of Efangha Close in the Eight Miles area of Calabar.

The armed robber was said to have died during a gun duel with the police while trying to escape with four others in a pickup van that was stolen from one of their victims. The four other robbers were said to have escaped.

Items recovered from the robbers included six mobile phones, two locally-made pistols

with cartridges, four laptops, one i-pad, iron cutter, a Ford van belonging to the Cross River State Internal Revenue Service with registration number CR 30 RB and N50, 000.

Narrating the incident to *PUNCH Metro* at the state Police headquarters in Calabar, one of the affected victims, (name withheld), said the robbers broke into his apartment at about 3.45am and made away with cash and his official vehicle.

He said, "At about 3.45am, two young men forced their way into my bedroom with guns.

"They ransacked my room and took four phones, money belonging to my wife, laptops and my official vehicle.

"They spent about 10 minutes and left. I later saw one of my phones which they probably did not see. It was that phone I used in contacting the police."

Another victim, who pleaded anonymity, said the robbers gained entrance into his apartment after a long battle with his door, adding that it was the delay in gaining entrance that gave him the opportunity of making a distress call to the police.

The Police Public Relations Officer, Mr. Hogan Bassey, said the police acted promptly after receiving the distress call at about 3.45am.

Bassey said, "It was on the strength of the call that officers and men from the Federal Housing Police Division swung into action.

"One of the suspected robbers was gunned down while trying to escape with for others, who are still at large.

While noting that the police was still on the trail of the escapees, Bassey said the police had put in place proactive measures to stem upsurge in crime during the approaching festive season.

Meanwhile, the Officer in Charge of the State Criminal Investigation Department, Alhaji Abdusalam Ganiyu, has urged members of the public to call the police when in distress.

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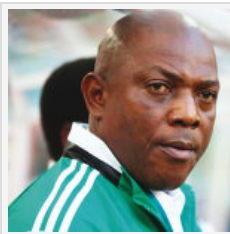


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He said the police were now better equipped to respond to distress from victims of robbery attacks and other criminal activities.

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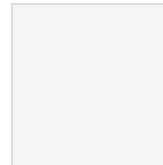
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