

# Police kill robber, foil operation in Bauchi

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... four nabbed in Imo

## **Armstrong Bakam and Chidiebube Okeoma**

A suspected armed robber has been killed by the police during a foiled operation at a filing station in Bauchi.

The Police Public Relations Officer in the state, Kamal Abubakar, stated this in a statement made available to journalists in Bauchi on Monday.

He said following a review of the police strategy and personnel deployment to ensure safety of lives and property in the state under the leadership of the Commissioner of Police, Habu Sani, personnel of the command, on Sunday, September 22, 2019, foiled an attempted robbery.

According to him, the command received a distress call that five armed robbers with Ak-47 rifles had stormed a filing station on the Bauchi-Jos Road and attempted to rob the attendants of the day's sales proceeds.

He said the police immediately swung into action and engaged the armed robbers in a gun battle, adding that in the process, one of the hoodlums was shot, while the others escaped.

Abubakar added that the injured robber was rushed to the Abubakar Tafawa Balewa University Teaching Hospital, Bauchi, for medical attention, where he died.

He stated, “On September 22, 2019, around 8pm, the command received a distress call from the Shafa filling station, situated in Miri village along the Bauchi-Jos Road, Bauchi, that a gang of suspected armed robbers, numbering about five and armed with AK-47 rifles and other weapons, stormed the filling station to rob it of the sales proceeds and other valuables.

“On receipt of the report, the command promptly mobilised its tactical team attached to the *Operation Puff Adder* to the area.

“However, on sighting the police team, the suspects engaged them in a gun battle, but they were overpowered by the superior firepower of the police and one of the suspects was shot during the battle, while the rest were suspected to have escaped with bullets wounds.

“The suspect was rushed to the Abubakar Tafawa Balewa Hospital for treatment but was later confirmed dead by a medical doctor.”

In a related development, personnel of the Imo State Police Command have arrested four robbery suspects said to be terrorising motorists on the Owerri-Orlu Expressway.

The state Police Public Relations Officer, Orlando Ikeokwu, told *PUNCH Metro* that the suspects were robbing their victims when the police struck.

He said the suspects engaged the police in a gun duel.

Describing the arrest as a major breakthrough, the police spokesperson said the suspects would soon be charged.

Ikeokwu stated, “On September 17, 2019, upon credible intelligence that armed men had blocked the road leading to the Nkwo Orodo Market and were dispossessing innocent citizens of their belongings, personnel from the Divisional Police Headquarters in Mbaitoli, led by the DPO, moved to the area and arrested four suspects.

“They are Sunday Chikezie, Chukwuemeka Ononiwu, Onwuenu Ugochukwu and Miracle Kalu.”