

# Two suspected Edo kidnappers killed in police gun duel

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File Copy: Police officer

| By Adeyinka Adedipe

The spokesperson for the Edo State Police Command, Moses Yamu, on Wednesday said its operatives neutralised two suspected kidnappers in a gun duel in Ubiaja, Esan South East Local Government Area on Tuesday.

Yamu, who stated this in a statement, noted that other suspects escaped with varying degrees of injuries, while guns and mobile phones were recovered from the scene.

He said, “On Tuesday, September 30, 2025, at about 09:50hrs, acting on credible intelligence, operatives of the Amedokhian Tactical Division, in synergy with local hunters and the vigilante group, led by SP Peter Ogah,

embarked on a bush combing operation along the railway track leading to Ubiaja in Esan South East Local Government Area.

“During the operation, the team encountered a gang of suspected kidnappers who opened fire on the operatives. In the ensuing gun duel, two of the suspects were neutralised, while others escaped with varying degrees of injuries.

“One AK-47 rifle with breech number 4148, 33 rounds of live ammunition, and two mobile phones were recovered at the scene. The neutralised suspects were immediately taken to the hospital, where they were confirmed dead.”

Yamu also said that on the same date, operatives of the same Tactical Division recovered an English-made double-barreled shotgun with breech number 03273286 and two live cartridges in the forest around Idumogun Community in Ukoni area of Esan South East LGA during a bush combing operation.

He said the Commissioner of Police, Monday Agbonika, commended the gallantry of the operatives, hunters, and vigilante groups for their swift response and synergy in combating crime.

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Agbonika assured members of the public that the Command remains resolute in its commitment to rid the State of criminal elements.

He urged members of the public to support the command's Community Safety Partnership initiative and informal policing efforts in ensuring a safer Edo State.

He added, “For emergencies, the public can contact the Command through the following lines: 08037646272/08077773721.”

The state has been plagued by the activities of kidnappers and cultists, with the command working with sister agencies and other security apparatus to fight these criminal elements.

Several criminals have been arrested and ensuring that those who have cases to answer are being charged to court after investigation.

On March 28, 2025, a mob killed seven travellers in Uromi, Edo Central, over their suspected involvement in kidnapping. Guns were found in the truck taking them to the northern part of the country, which triggered the lynching of about 16 of them, with seven dying in the process.