

Police kill 2 suspected armed robbers

From EMMANUEL UZOR, Onitsha

Anamбра State Police Command yesterday killed two armed robbery suspects who have allegedly been terrorizing the commercial city of Onitsha and its environs, even as one policeman sustained bullet injuries.

Addressing journalists at the Special Anti Robbery Squad (SARS) headquarters, Awkuzu, the state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Mr. Emeka Chukwuemeka, said operatives of SARS acting on a tip-off, stormed the suspects' hideout in Obosi, Idemili North Local Government Area and killed two members of the gang.

Chukwuemeka disclosed that the suspected armed robbery/kidnapping gang, led by one of the dead suspects, simply identified as Small, was responsible for series of kidnapping and armed robbery in Onitsha.

He further said a robbery kingpin, who was arrested by SARS operatives, led by the Commander, Mr. James Nwafor, led the policemen to Obosi where over 15 members of the gang on sighting policemen, opened fire and the police responded, leading to the death of two members while others escaped with bullet wounds.

The police image-maker also said the suspected leader, Small was gunned down alongside one other member, known as Alanta while one other suspect was arrested alive with bullet injuries.

"In the wee hours of yesterday, our men stormed a dangerous armed robbery/kidnapping hideout in Obosi in Idemili North council area where over 15 suspected armed robbers/kidnappers used as their den. The suspects on sighting our men, opened fire; of course our men responded which led to the death of two members of the gang while one of our men sustained gunshot injuries and is responding to treatment.

"This gang has been on the wanted list of the police and the gang was also responsible for the kidnap of an expatriate with Consolidated Construction Company (CCC) and other construction companies in the state and when information about their hideout got to us, we mobilized and struck and it yielded result, though some members of the gang fled with bullet wounds. There is a serious manhunt to arrest the fleeing members of the gang," he said.