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4 killed in Port Harcourt robbery

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BY OUR REPORTER ONMARCH 7, 2015

COVER

FROM TONY JOHN, PORT HARCOURT

No fewer than four persons were killed in Port Harcourt, Rivers State, yesterday, during a robbery operation, that saw the bandits carting away millions of naira from a bullion van. The robbery took place at Mile 3 area of the city.

According to an eyewitness, the robbers, who operated in an ash-coloured Highlander SUV, were said to have barricaded the bullion van conveying the money, as they shot sporadically.

The robbery operation caused panic in the area as motorists, traders and pedestrians were seen running helter-skelter to avoid being hit by stray bullets. Checks revealed that the robbers successfully transferred the millions of naira in bags, into their operational vehicle and zoomed off. In a bid to have a smooth escape, the robbers shot ceaselessly as they drove on the Ikwerre road towards Mile 1.

As they sighted police on the overhead bridge, who ostensibly got information about their operation, and blocked the road, the robbers intensified shooting.

It was in the process, that the victims, including a woman, were hit by stray bullets and they died. Confirming the incident, the Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Ahmad Muhammad, said only one person lost his life.

He said items recovered from their abandoned vehicle included money in locked bags, a pistol, a rifle 11 magazines of AK 47 rifle, 63 assorted live ammunition, among many others.

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