

# Member of dreaded Ghana's gang shot dead in Benue

From **Rose Ejembi,**  
Makurdi

**ONE** suspected criminal believed to be a member of the gang of dreaded kingpin, Terwase Akwaza, aka Ghana, has been shot dead in Benue State.

According to the Benue State Police Command's Public Relations Officer (PPRO), ASP Moses Yamu, the Operation Zenda special squad of the command last week engaged in a gun duel with the gang of the wanted criminal at about 3am.

He said a gun battle ensued when the crack squad stormed a robber's hideout at a location on the border with Taraba State, following reliable information that Ghana and his gang were holding a meeting in the area.

"The bandits immediately opened fire on sighting the police team. In the ensuing gun duel, a bullet hit one Danladi Audu, aka Jerry, who was hosting the meeting. Others escaped with bullet wounds, as there were traces of bloodstains all

over the place. He was confirmed dead on reaching the hospital."

Yamu, who disclosed that the team recovered an assault rifle with 115 rounds of live ammunition,

10 live cartridges, assorted charms, two Army camouflage shorts and other items, maintained that the manhunt for the fleeing criminals and the gang leader was

still ongoing.

Ghana has been on the wanted list of security agents for several crimes, ranging from kidnapping, robbery to murder.

## Judge orders forfeiture of contraband worth N50m

By **Lukman Olabiyi**

**JUSTICE** Abdulaziz Anka of the Federal High Court, Lagos, has granted an application filed by the Nigeria Customs Service Board seeking the permanent forfeiture of contraband valued at N50,151,606 to the Federal Government.

The contraband include bales of fairly-used clothes, shoes, bags, bedsheets, porcelain plates, 7,163 bags of foreign parboiled rice, and 147 jerry cans of vegetable oil, which were alleged to have been intercepted between April and June 2017.

Others were seven vehicles, whose values were, however, not stated.

According to the agency's

assistant legal adviser, Federal Operations Unit, Zone A, Ikeja, Lagos, Shehu Bodinga, the owners refused to show up after the goods were intercepted.

In the application, the lawyer told the judge that there was an urgent need to order the forfeiture of the goods because some of them were perishable.

The NCS, according to him, had been ordered by the Presidency to distribute some of the seized items to victims of Boko Haram insurgency living in internally displaced persons (IDP) camps in the North-East.

In a 15-paragraph affidavit, Bodinga said the goods were imported in breach of Section 46(c) of the Customs and Management Act, and, in some cases, the importers and their privies attempted to evade duty on the goods or the items they brought

into the country, which were prohibited by law.

He said: "Apart from acts of fraudulent evasion of duty, some of the defaulters brought in outright unlawful and prohibited items, which are so classified by the Customs laws and regulations.

"I verily believe that because of the severity of the punishment and sanction attached to the offences, the defaulters, along with their collaborators, have refused and or failed to come forward to claim the goods from the Nigeria Customs Service, thereby, abandoning same and same seized.

"In order to prevent complete deterioration of the said goods and total loss of revenue to the Nigeria Customs Service, the board now intends to sell the goods, either by way of auction, allocation or by any other procedure."

CP threatens to arrests

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