

# Police kill suspected robber, foil cult initiation in Delta

From **Paul Osuyi**, Asaba

**A** suspected member of a three-man robbery gang has met his Waterloo, after sustaining injuries during a shoot out with policemen on stop and

search duty in Delta State.

This is even as the Operation Delta Hawk, a combined security network of the state government foiled a cult initiation ceremony in Agbor, Ika South Local Government Area of the state.

Confirming both incidents in Asaba, yesterday, Public Relations Officer of the state police command, DSP Bright Edefe, said the deceased suspect died at the hospital where he was rushed to for treatment, adding that a locally made pistol loaded with a live cartridge and two expended cartridges were recovered from him.

Edefe said the three-man gang, who were in a white Lexus 350 SUV with registration number WWR 434 MD, were flagged down at Umunede, on the Benin-Asaba-Onitsha expressway.

He said on noticing the operatives, the occupants stopped abruptly, disembarked, shot sporadically and ran into the bush.

He said operatives went af-

ter the hoodlums, returning fire for fire which resulted in fatal injuries on the late suspect while others escaped.

He said investigation revealed that the recovered Lexus 350 Jeep was snatched from the owner at gun point around Warri, last Saturday.

On the foiled initiation into the Vikings cult group, Edefe said the team, acting on intelligence, stormed the venue at Aliokpo Power Line, Off Old Warri Road, Agbor, where two male suspects - Blessing Rex (30) and Lucky Wisdom (18), were arrested, while others escaped.

Saying that efforts were on to track down the fleeing suspects, Edefe added that 11 motorcycles and one Vikings confraternity flag were recovered from the scene of the foiled initiation.

He also confirmed the arrest of 24-year-old Daniel Banjo with one locally-made double barrel pistol and two live cartridges, also, in Agbor, by the Delta Hawk operatives.

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one cannot approach a court in any of the jurisdictions.

He argued that it was clear from the way his client was treated that his rights were violated, and as such, he is entitled to seek protection from the court.

Mahmoud urged the court to grant all the reliefs sought by the ex-emir in his suit.

Responding, lawyer to the IGP, Victor Okoye, argued otherwise.

He faulted the competence of the suit and queried the court's jurisdiction to hear it.

Okoye, in challenging the jurisdiction of the court, noted that the instrument conveying the ex-emir's banishment was authored and endorsed by