

Police kill 3 notorious bandits in Delta

... foil cult clash

BY EMMA AMAIZE &
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WARRI—POLICE in Warri, Delta State, weekend, shot dead three suspected armed robbers in a gun duel, while two others, including the gang leader and driver, escaped with bullet wounds.

This came as the police also foiled what could have led to a bloody clash between cult groups in the town, as a four-man cult gang is currently in the custody of the Nigerian Army, Koko Barracks, after the gang set ablaze the house of a rival's father. Although the cultists were said to have been fully armed with shot guns, they did not kill any one as they took to their heels with the early arrival of policemen to the scene.

One of the suspected cultists was said to have led three others to burn the property of their rival's father after smashing the door of one of the apartments which they set ablaze.

On the killed robbers, the

bandits, who caused panic in Warri, had robbed a woman of her SUV at Enerhen Junction, but ran out of luck at Airport Road, when police patrol teams, acting on a tip-off from a good Samaritan accosted them.

Mr. Hussaini Rabi, Assistant Commissioner of Police, who confirmed the death of the bandits, told reporters in Warri, that they

had been on the wanted list of the police.

He said: "After receiving a text message from a good Samaritan, I forwarded same to our patrol teams, which swung into action immediately. Our counter force engaged the robbers in a shootout on Airport Road. These notorious boys have been on our wanted list."

ANPP chieftain hails INEC's deregistration of parties

BY JIMITOTA
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PORT HARCOURT—A FORMER governorship candidate of All Nigeria Peoples Party, ANPP, in Edo State, Chief Solomon Edebiri, has lauded the decision of Independent National Electoral Commission, INEC, to deregister some political parties.

Speaking, yesterday, in Port Harcourt, Rivers State, Edebiri, who is also a member of Board of Trustees of ANPP, said so long as the electoral body acted within the

confines of the Electoral Act, its action was in order.

He said there was need to prune down political parties in the country to what he termed a 'reasonable level.'

He advised the Federal Government to create jobs for the youths, stressing that it would go a long way to address the security challenges in the country.

He said: "There is so much unemployment in the country to the extent that people are no longer free to walk the streets for fear of being kidnapped."