

News

Bandits kill 6 in Lagos

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ARMED bandits were on the prowl again weekend in Lagos killing at least six persons including three policemen and chairman of the editorial board of *This Day* Newspapers, Mr. Godwin Agbroko.

In a swift reaction, however, Lagos State governor, Bola Ahmed Tinubu called on the police authorities to unravel the latest killings even as he condemned the incidents.

Both Agbroko and others were shot dead by unknown gunmen suspected to be members of the same gang Friday night at 7/8 bus stop on Airport Road, Mafoluku, Oshodi, Lagos.

Daily Champion learnt that the late policemen were responding to a distress call by a sympathiser after the attack on Agbroko when the armed men suddenly opened fire on them.

The deceased policemen whose identities could not be immediately ascertained are an inspector, sergeant

and a corporal.

Two other victims of the attack were said to be bystanders.

Contacted on the incidents, spokesman for Lagos Police Command, Mr. Olubode Ojajuni confirmed it saying that the police cannot be intimidated by hoodlums.

Said he: "We will continue to give them (criminals) fights and we shall defeat them because light will always shine over darkness."

Mr. Ojajuni, a Superintendent of Police urged members of the public to volunteer information on the activities of criminals.

Meanwhile, Governor Tinubu has expressed great shock over the brutal murder on Friday evening of Agbroko.

Governor Tinubu in his condolence message commiserated with journalists and all Nigerians over the killing of the very brilliant journalist who writes *This Nation* column on Tuesdays in the *This Day* newspapers.

Governor Tinubu called on the Police authorities to unravel the mystery of the latest killing and ensure that it ends the spectre of political violence and killings which have refused to abate despite repeated promises to ensure same.

Tinubu emphasized that our society must respect the freedom of speech and that this killing represents a potent threat to freedom of the Press which is critical to the sustenance of our fledgling democracy.

He also called on all Nigerians to condemn this resort to violence and the elimination of the voices of the nation.

The Governor added that the call is coming against the background that the country is months away from the 2007 general elections which would cement the sustenance of democracy in the biggest black democracy in the world.

He prayed to God to give the family of the slain columnist the fortitude to bear the irreparable loss.