

Police confirm bank robbery in Bonny, banker killed

CHINEDU WOSU, Port Harcourt

RIVERS State Police Command has confirmed the robbery attack at Bonny Island involving a new generation bank where a banker was shot by the gunmen.

The police image maker, Mrs. Ireju Barasua, a Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP) while confirming the shooting at the bank said the robbers injured a staff with the bank.

The incident occurred on Friday afternoon as the robbers stormed the bank and opened fire in the premises, shooting sporadically and carted away huge sum, of money.

According to the police spokesperson, the robbers escaped arrest as they sped away in an awaiting two speed boats to the mangrove forest in the Island.

The Friday attack on the bonny bank attracted large crowd as most passers-by ran

for safety of their lives.

Although the identities of the attackers were not ascertained as at the time of filing in this report, the name of the banker was not made public by the police command.

The police also did not disclose the amount of money carted away from the bank by the hoodlums.

Police also said the victim of the attack is now receiving treatment in an undisclosed hospital in the Island even as the command had deployed more mobile policemen to the scene of the attack.

Bank robbery in the city has become targets for criminals and hoodlums across the state as robbers now shoot sporadically at customers who withdraw money from any of the banks in the city.

It would be recalled that five persons were separately shot in the city last week as they went to various banks located in the heart of the city to withdraw some cash.

Our correspondent reports that among those shot were the *Tribune* correspondent, Mr. John Ogbedu, who went to a bank to withdrawn some cash last Tuesday afternoon and was chased at gun point even as he was shot on the thigh and N180,000 was collected from him.

The journalist, who is now receiving medical attention at Teme Clinic in the state capital, could not walk or raise his legs as he is in a supportive device.

Sunday Champion reports that residents of the city are now sleeping with one eye open as no one knows whose turn of the shooting would be as guns rain freely in the hands of miscreants and criminals in the oil rich Rivers State.

**I'll win my
opponents again
-Alao Akala**

By ANTHONY OMOH

YO State Governor, Otunba