

# Lagos: Robbers kill pregnant woman, 7 others

LUKKEY ABAWURU

**B**LOOD flowed freely yesterday at Lagos Island as armed robbery suspects killed no fewer than seven persons, including a pregnant woman while fleeing from a successful bank robbery at Lewis Street, Lagos.

*Saturday Champion* learnt that the gunmen numbering over six entered into the premises of first generation bank (names withheld) at about 1pm shortly after a bullion van conveyed money to the bank.

Eyewitness said the robbers met a bag of money in the booth of the bullion van waiting to be transferred to the bank's vault and later went into the bank's vault where they collected more money.

The source, who pleaded for anonymity noted that the robbers came in a white Toyota Hiace car, adding that one of them wore a military uniform.

"It was not up to five minutes when the bullion van arrived, the gunmen forced themselves into the premises and collected the bag of money that was just brought to the bank. At that time, the vault of the bank was open as some bank staff were waiting to add the money into the vault."

He said that the gunmen immediately shot several

bullets into the air apparently, to frighten policemen on guard at the bank.

However, another source who identified himself as Okoro, a motorcyclist told *Saturday Champion* that some of the people that were killed were *Okada* riders plying between Obalende and Adeniyi Adele routes.

Okoro who said he narrowly escaped the incident said one of his colleagues was caught by the robbers bullet while the passenger he was carrying cheated death by the whiskers.

He said that the robbers escaped via the third mainland bridge even as policemen at Kam Salem House and Lion Building scampered for their safety thereby allowing the suspects to flee.

When our correspondent went to Lion Building Police station, a source said that two staff of the bank (names withheld) have been arrested

in connection with the robbery.

The suspects were said to have brought about N7 million

to the bank to add to N5 million that was already in the vault for the day's transaction.

Our source who also

pleaded for anonymity said the divisional police officer of the station cut short his meeting at Ikeja to return to his base immediately a distress call over the incident was sent to him.



**WEDDING...** (L-r) Minister of State for Science and Technology, Dr. Alhassan Zaka with his counterpart for Aviation, Hassan Hyatt, National Planning Minister, Sanusi Dagashi, Education Minister, Chief Igwe Aja-Nwachukwu and Minister of State for Tourism and National Orientation, Dr. Aliyu Hong at the wedding of the son of Minister of State for education, Jerry Agada in Abuja recently.

## 3rd term: Mantu 'baptised' for re-election

RAYMOND GUKAS, Jos

**F**ORMER deputy Senate president, Ibrahim Mantu, has launched his campaign for today's senatorial re-run election for Plateau Central, urging the people in the zone

to henceforth, address him as Rev. (Dr.) Alhaji Ibrahim Mantu.

And on hand to lend support to his ambition, state governor, Mr. Jonah Jang, explained that the only credible candidate that would

give the zone a deserved representation remains Senator Ibrahim Mantu.

At the campaign rally in Panskhin local government area, Mantu appealed to his supporters to allow him time to preach a little gospel that "God loves all of us, whether

result, even the government of the day, which is PDP, cannot force people to vote for it. But we will rather appeal to people to vote for our candidate."

**Rivers: Gunmen a**

CHINEDI IWOSU, Port Harcourt