

#### Tue, April 21, 2009

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# **Bloody day!**

#### Champion News

### Editorial Opinion

**Politics** 

**Sports** 

**Features** 

Health Champion -

Arts

Columnists

Insurance

Money &

Markets

Infotel &

Energy

Marketing &Managment

Transport & tours

Foreign scene

View from America

Weblog

Site Map

Shipping news

## Armed robbers kill 30 in Anambra

•3 pregnant women, 3 policemen victims

Justin Ozuzu, Nnewi

Dare-devil armed robbers yesterday went on rampage in various parts of Anambra State, killing at least 30 persons and injuring over 15. Three pregnant women, three police officers and a soldier were among the victims.

The robbers sources said, operated in a convoy of a Sport Utility Vehicle (SUV) jeep, a Toyota Hilux van, and a Hiace bus. They were said to have started operation at Oba, near Onitsha, where they attacked a bullion van belonging to one of the new generation banks which was conveying money from Onitsha to Nnewi.

Daily Champion could not ascertain whether they succeed in breaking the vault of the bullion van. However, when security operatives confronted them, they got infuriated and started shooting indiscriminately at passers-by.

After the Oba incident, they went to Nnobi where they opened fire on passers-by and killed an undisclosed number of persons. They carried their vengeance to Igbo Ukwu where they increased the death toll.

Some of the corpses have been deposited at the Nnamdi Azikiwe University Teaching Hospital (NAUTH), mortuary and Akwudo mortuary all in Nnewi.

When our correspondent visited NAUTH, bus drivers were seen bringing in some of the victims to the hospital, while police officers were busy contacting families of the victims with some of the hand sets, recovered at the scenes.

#### Countryman

Speaking to Daily Champion, an eye witness identified as ifeanyi, a bus driver said he was going to Nkpor from Oraukwu when he ran into the armed robbers at a police check point in Ideani. He said the robbers opened fire as they approached the police checkpoint with the intention of scaring the security operatives on duty.

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He narrated how the robbers sprayed bullets on his bus before he eventually escaped. He said three of his passengers lost their lives in the course of the indiscriminate shooting by the robbers. He disclosed that a military officer equally lost his life at the check point.

When the Police Public Relations Officer, Mr Fidelis Agbo was contacted on the incident, he confirmed it and also told our Correspondent that none of the robbers were killed.

Mr Agbo equally said that the command has commenced investigation into incident, and that they will stop at nothing in ensuring that the perpetrators are apprehended

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