

2 Police Constables killed in bank robbery

DENNIS NAKU, Yenagosa

TWO police constables were yesterday shot dead, when suspected armed bandits raided a new generation bank in Amassoma, Southern Ijaw Local Government Area of Bayelsa State.

Two other policemen who were on patrol and some passersby were also injured during raid.

According to an eye witness, who pleaded anonymity the bandits, numbering over 10 came in through Nun River axis of Amassoma in two speed boats about 9.30am on Tuesday and headed straight to the bank which is few metres from the jetty.

The two policemen and private security guards attached to the bank were said

to have to put up resistance, but were over powered superior fire power of the suspected bandits.

The raid which lasted over about 40 minutes threw Amassoma and other neighbouring communities hosting the Bayelsa state owned Niger Delta University into confusion, as some students stayed back in their hostels almost two hours. Other residents were forced indoors, just as the market was deserted.

The robbers while carting away some substantial amount of money, killed two policemen, injured two others. Those injured are receiving treatment at the Sick Bay at the Niger Delta University (NDU).

Also, an unconfirmed

report stated that Branch Manager of the affected bank (name withheld) was shot on his legs and is receiving medical attention at an undisclosed hospital.

The State Commissioner of Police, Elder Onuoha Uka Udeka confirmed the incident to newsmen in his office. "We lost two policemen to bank robbery this morning at exactly 9.30am in the one of the new generation banks in Amassoma, Southern Ijaw Local Government Area of the state.

"The victims of the incident were not attached to the bank. They were on foot patrol when they met their untimely death. It is one of the hazards of the profession.

"No arrest has been made but we have put all our men in

security alert most especially those riverine areas, as security report had it that they headed towards Ekeremor Local Government Area of the state.

When *Daily Champion* visited the scene of the robbery, the area was under lock and key while soldiers attached to the Joint Military Task Force have taken over the security of the place.

**FG approves N19 bn
for N/Delta**

As part of the efforts to get the post-amnesty programme off the ground, the Federal Government has concluded arrangement to pump about N19 billion for land reclamation and shoreline projects in the Niger Delta region.

Also, the Acting President, Goodluck Jonathan has directed that consideration for the communities to benefit from the projects should not have any political undertone.

Barring any unforeseen delay, it was also gathered that the Acting President wants this contract executed in four weeks' time.

The decision was arrived at during the Steering Council on Niger Delta amnesty meeting yesterday at the Presidential Villa.

The meeting, presided over by the Acting President, had in attendance the governors of Rivers, Bayelsa, Akwa Ibom, Delta State and the Deputy Governor of Ondo state.

Others in attendance were the ministers of Finance, Niger Delta Affairs and environment.

Champion Mobile Service

Was National Assembly right in asking
Goodluck Jonathan to become Acting President

In the absence of Yar'Adua?

To send your comment: Type CNL space
then send to **32811**.

We will publish your comments in our
subsequent editions.

Champion Newspapers

...For a Better Society

Powered by GTS Infotel