

on yesterday.

# Abia: 3 killed as robbers invade police station

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**T**HREE suspected armed robbers yesterday met their Waterloo in Abia State following a botched attempt to raid the Eastern Obingwa Police station in Obingwa local government area of the state.

Briefing journalists while displaying bullet-ridden bodies of the criminals at the state

police headquarters in Umuahia, the state commissioner of Police, Mr. Jonathan Johnson, said the hoodlums numbering about five and armed with sophisticated weapons at about 1 p.m, drove into the police station in a Mercedes Benz saloon car and started shooting indiscriminately.

As they continued their shooting spree, two gallant

police constables courageously confronted them and instantly gunned down three of the gang members while the other two fled.

The police, however, did not record any casualty in the attack.

The police boss expressed worry over why criminals should continue to make the police the target of their attacks even without provocation, as this was the fourth attack on the police

station in recent times.

He, therefore, appealed to criminals in the state to embrace the on-going amnesty programme of the Federal Government in collaboration with the state government and surrender their weapons for rehabilitation.

A police source, however told *Daily Champion* that the criminals probably wanted to test the superiority of their fire arms as the police cell was empty as at the time of the attack.

It would be recalled that the attack is coming barely one week after the state government in partnership with the Federal Government renewed its amnesty programme with an appeal to criminals to surrender their arms and be rehabilitated.

Meanwhile, the recent order by the Inspector-General of Police, Mr. Ogbonna Onovo, for the dismantling of police road blocks in the South East zone has been greeted with mixed reactions as some residents expressed anxiety that criminals would take undue advantage of the directive to unleash more terror on the public.

But the Abia Police Commissioner while reacting to the directive, advised residents not to panic as the command had put in place high security measures to contain any emergency.

## Nigerian farmers to participate in US agric fair

**A**N annual summit of all stakeholders in the agricultural industry will take place at the Georgia World Congress Center, Atlanta Georgia, USA between January 8 and 10, 2011.

It is the 2011 edition of the AG CONNECT Expo.

It is a world-class event that brings together, experts in the agricultural industry to share experiences and skills in the very latest in equipment, technology, ideas and innovations from all areas of agriculture production, all around the globe.

Niche PR, a public relations agency with focus on building brands and global events marketing, has been commissioned to lead a delegation of exhibitors and trade visitors to the event.

According to a statement

from the PR firm, the Expo will be a good networking platform for people who want to import agricultural equipment and export agricultural produce and also learn relevant technologies for mechanized agriculture.

This year's event, the firm said, will feature: expert-led educational sessions with content driven by leading industry organizations; networking opportunities and events with suppliers and producers from around the world; innovations in equipment, inputs and services to help participants maximize profits; and management by the industry, for the industry—with show direction in the hands of AEM members and other industry leaders.

Nigerian professionals, researchers, policy makers,

exporters and other stakeholders in the agricultural sector are expected to attend.

"This is a tremendous opportunity for the Nigerian agriculture sector to share resources with their American counterparts in the areas of growth of crops and advanced mechanised agriculture and equipment.

"The participation of Nigeria at this event cannot be over-emphasised as agriculture is global business and Nigeria being blessed with a wide expanse of land for mechanized agriculture, needs to take full advantage and help our economy so that we will not only be exporting crude oil but also agricultural products which, if well exploited, could be the highest source

statement further stated.