

# Armed robbers overrun Jalingo

... kill 2 policemen, others

**F**our persons, among them two policemen, were on Tuesday night killed when a gang of suspected armed robbers unleashed terror on residents of Jalingo, the Taraba state capital. Four others, who sustained various degrees of gunshot injuries during the over one hour robbery attack, were rushed to the Federal Medical Centre, Jalingo, for treatment.

The armed bandits, numbering over 40, were said to have arrived Jalingo at about 10pm through the

**From Fidelis Mac-Leva  
Jalingo**

Jalingo- Makurdi road in three vehicles, two 18-seater buses and a jeep, on a robbery mission to Taraba state.

On getting into the state capital, the robbers were said to have encountered a team of Highway Patrol Police team at a check point located on the outskirts of Jalingo at a settlement popularly called ATC.

Daily Trust gathered that no sooner the police stopped the robbers' vehicles at the check point for routine checks than the robbers, who were

heavily armed, opened fire.

The armed bandits were said to have dislodged the police patrol team at the checkpoint with no casualty and proceeded to the popular roadblock roundabout where they met yet another team of policemen on night patrol.

Another round of sporadic shootings were said to have been carried out by the men of the underworld at the roadblock which is a commercial nerve centre in Jalingo. There was panic and anxiety among residents and passers-by as the sound of gunshots rattled the air with deafening intensity, an eye witness told *Daily Trust*.

Consequently, *Daily Trust* learnt, a middle aged woman with hypertension was said to have collapsed and died of shock from the terrifying sound of gunshots, while a number of passers-by, including a commercial motorcycle operator, sustained various degrees of injuries from stray bullets.

The robbers were said to have moved further into the city gate along the Yola road where they encountered another highway patrol team.

It was here that the two policemen, a sergeant and a constable, were gunned down by the armed bandits, while the driver of a 911 truck that arrived the scene from Yola was also felled by the robbers' bullets.

Taraba state police spokesman, Solomon Issa, who confirmed the incident to newsmen, gave the names of the two policemen, both with the Taraba state police command, as Sergeant Kenneth Nwabueze and Constable Jediel Jersmel.

He said the robbers eventually escaped through the Jalingo-Yola road after making away with a service rifle belonging to one of the policemen on patrol.

No arrest has been made as at press time even as the PPRO said the police have spread its dragnet to obtain useful information that could lead to the tracking down of the perpetrators of the criminal act.

Meanwhile, Governor Danbaba Suntai has visited the Federal Medical Centre, Jalingo, where he sympathised with the injured victims receiving treatment.

## Doma decries poor representation in federal civil service

**N**asarawa State Governor, Alhaji Aliyu Akwe Doma, has decried the dismal representation of the state in the Federal Civil Service despite the existence of the Federal Character Commission (FCC).

Speaking during the commissioning of the

**From Ahmed Tahir Ajobe,  
Lafia**

She expressed the readiness of the commission to partner with the state government to find solutions to the problems associated with the poor representation.