

# Police smash car snatching gang, kill three

**P**olice in Lagos say they smashed a car snatching syndicate and killed three members of another robbery gang. Lagos State Commissioner, Mr. Marvel Akpoyibo told journalists at a press conference yesterday that luck ran out on the gang after they snatched a Kia Cerato saloon car marked DY 687 KRD (Lagos) from its owner at Ogba when the operatives swung on them following a tip-off.

Akpoyibo said the robbers were accosted along Bank Anthony Road, Ikeja at about 11.30p.m by the operatives following an intensive manhunt. Upon sighting the police, he said the robbers opened fire in a bid to escape.

During the encounter, the policemen were said to have killed two of the robbers on

*From Bola Ojuola, Lagos*

the spot while the third escaped with bullet wounds. A single barrel short-gun, a locally made pistol, a double barrel short-gun, two live cartridges, two rounds of .9m calibre live ammunition and other weapons were said to have been recovered from the gang.

Three other armed robbers gang were shot dead by security operatives during encounters at the weekend. Two members of a three-man gang that snatched a car were accosted and engaged in a shoot-out by the anti-robbery operatives attached to the Special Anti-Robbery Squad (SARS) on Saturday by men of the Lagos State police command in Lagos. Also, a member of another gang

that snatched an official car belonging to a journalist with Compass Newspaper was nabbed at the weekend.

The journalist was returning from work to his Ikotun-Egbe home late at night on Sunday and was waylaid at a spot and the car was collected from him at gunpoint.

Unknown to the robbers a tracker was installed in the car which later led the police to them.

The Toyota Yaris Saloon Car, marked CP 31 AKM (Ogun State) was later found where it was parked a few metres away from a hotel in a remote area of Egbe following a distress call.

The operatives, it was said, laid ambush for the bandits and killed two of them when they were about to escape.