

Police kill 6 robbery suspects in Delta, Borno

From Monday Osayande, Asaba & Hamza Idris, Maiduguri

POLICE in Asaba, Delta State, have shot dead three suspected armed robbers said to be terrorizing Warri and Sapele. The police said two of the dead robbers, who allegedly robbed a business woman in Warri, were burnt to death by irate youths, who assisted the police to gun down the suspects.

The state command's Public Relations Officer, Mr. Charles Muka also told *Daily Trust* in Asaba, Wednesday, that one Isaiah Orumah, a notorious robbery suspect, operating in

Sapele and environs was killed by the police in Ibada. According to him, four of the suspected armed robbers escaped into the bush, with bullet wounds.

The police image maker added that two double barrel guns, one locally made single barrel gun, two live cartridges and a female hand bag were recovered from the suspects. He said the police were on the trail of the other members of the gang.

Also in Borno State, the police on Tuesday night killed three suspected armed robbers at Banki, a border town between Nigeria and Cameroun. The state's Police Commissioner,

Mohammed Jinjiri Abubakar, who addressed journalists yesterday, said six of the armed robbers fled while one was caught at Magumeri along Damasak road. He said the police also recovered three AK40 rifles from the suspected armed robbers and that investigation was ongoing.

"We were able to get the armed robbers because of the information we received from the general public. It will be difficult for us to succeed without the co-operation of the people," he said.

When asked about the reported killing of two soldiers during an encounter with gunmen who

attacked the COCIN Church at Simari Ward in Maiduguri also on Tuesday, the commissioner said the army has not briefed him on the matter.

Our correspondent reports that there were gun shots at Simari, Gomari and Bulumkutu areas of the metropolis on Tuesday and witnesses said two soldiers and an unspecified number of gunmen who launched the attack were killed in an exchange of fire.

Efforts to speak to Brigadier General Tanko Gaiya, Commander of the 21 Armoured Brigade, Maiduguri, were not successful while the army spokesman, Lieutenant Danbeki A.E, said he had not yet received clearance to talk to the press.