

# CRIME NOTES

BY ALEX OLISE AND ODITA SUNDAY

## RIVERS

**ROBBERY:** Residents now live in fear over the rising spate of armed robberies in the state. The robbers now terrorise residents by using motorbikes, popularly known as *okada* to operate.

## KATSINA

**NARCOTICS:** Operatives of the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) have arrested a 54-year-old man with drug substance, suspected to be Indian Hemp, weighing about 50 kilogrammes. He was paraded alongside 59 others recently.

## OSUN

**KILLED:** A middle-aged goldsmith has been murdered by his close associate. Police in the state have started investigation and arrested two persons over the killing.

## DELTA

**KILLED:** Tears flowed freely among sympathisers when a reckless driver crushed two pupils to death along the Benin-Asaba highway. The driver, however, sped off but their parents later came to take the kids' corpses.

Also, a gang of armed robbers recently attacked the Divisional Police Officer (DCO) in charge of Epan Division and shot him to death along the Umutu-Urhonigbe road, where robbers operate on daily basis with little presence of police.

## EDO

**SHOT DEAD:** Nemesis has caught up with nine suspected armed robbers as they were shot dead by a team of anti-robbery policemen. The state Police Commissioner, Bala Hassan said two AK-47 and two AK-49 rifles were recovered from them after a gun duel which lasted about one hour along the Benin-Auchi road.

## LAGOS

**BOAT MISHAP:** On October 13, at about 2.20pm, police received a report that one Francis Auwre of Tarkwa Bay Island, with six others, boarded a passenger boat from Mekuen to Tarkwa Bay and on getting to Cowrie Bridge, the boat capsized due to high wave and all were feared drowned. Policemen from the station visited the scene and rescued Raphael and Dapo Bimisheye. The boat is yet to be seen.

**MOTOR ACCIDENT:** On October 13, at about 3pm, a report was received at Ikorodu Police Station that a yet-to-be identified commercial motorcyclist ran into a M/Benz Tanker Truck, with Reg. No. XB 800 SGM driven by one Adeola Williams, of No. Igiologbin Street, Bariga along Ikorodu Expressway. The motorcyclist died on the spot.

Similarly, on October 14, at about 09:15am, a report was lodged at Ketu Police Station that a Dina Truck, with Reg. No. BF 362 AKD driven by one Lanre Onokoya, of 12, Adefemi Street, Ketu ran over five-year-old Hammed Sulaiman of 4B, Awonusi Street, at Ladipo Street, Ketu. The victim died on the spot.

Finally, on October 14, at about 8:20am, information was received at Epe Police station that a Bedford Lorry, with Reg. No. QQ 866 JBD, driven by one Fatai Idowu of Ibadan Road, Ijebu-Ode lost control and ran into a tree at Ajebo, along Agbowo/Itokin Road, Epe. The driver died on the spot, while the two mates sustained injuries and were rushed to nearby hospital for treatment.

**FIRE INCIDENT:** On October 14, at about 4:50pm, a report was lodged at Mushin Police Station that there was a fire outbreak at Vono Production factory. The fire, which affected a section of the company, was later put out by fire fighters, with the assistance from policemen. There was no loss of life.

**KILLED:** At least four persons were feared killed during Wednesday's early morning clash between officials of the Lagos State Traffic Management Authority (LASTMA) and some miscreants hiding under the agencies of National Union of Transport Workers (NURTW). The Lagos State police command dispatched men to the scene to stop the clash, which lasted for about four hours.

**ARMS RECOVERY:** On October 17, at about 9 pm, a distress call was received at state C.I.D Panti, Yaba that armed robbers were operating at Lateef Estate, off Yetunde Brown Street, Ifako, Gbagada. A team of Anti-Robbery policemen from Anthony Police Station raced to the scene and engaged the robbers in gunfight. One of the robbers was arrested with bullet wounds, while two others escaped. The injured robber later died. One Brown pistol, seven rounds of ammunition and nine live cartridges were recovered from the dead robber.

Similarly, on October 17, at about 10.50 am, following confessional statement of one armed robbery suspect, Godswill Obinna, police anti-robbery team attached to State C.I.D Panti-Yaba, moved to Iyana Ishashi area and recovered one rifle, one pump action gun and 14 rounds of live ammunition.

Finally, on October 12, at about 8.15 am, a distress call was received at state C.I.D Panti, Yaba that some stolen vehicles were being dismantled in a mechanic workshop located at Araromi, a border town between Lagos and Ogun States. Policemen attached to Ikorodun Police Station visited the scene and recovered seven vehicles. Five suspects, namely: Muiyiwa, Olufowobi, Samsideen Ajoloya, Amuda Awoyalumo, Biodun Olukoya and Lateef Awoyalumo were arrested in connection with the case.