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gunmen shoot don

From Leo Sobechi (Abakaliki), Simeon Nwakaudu (Makurdi) and Njadvara Musa (Maiduguri)

MEN of Ebonyi State Police Command in Abakaliki, the state capital, have dismantled a four-man robbery gang that attacks unsuspecting bank customers and snatches money from them.

Two of the bandits were killed after they snatched N1.29 million at gun-point from a victim along Ogoja Road in Abakaliki.

The Police Public Relations Officer, Mr. Chris Anyanwu, told journalists yesterday that the hoodlums, who usually ambushed bank customers while armed, met their Waterloo after they had snatched money from one Simeon Iseh after leaving the branch of a bank on Ogoja Road.

He said as the victim was approaching a filling station, the four robbers struck.

"The four hoodlums on two motorbikes pointed their two locally-made pistols at



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him on the right hand side and demanded that he should hand over his GSM handsets and the money. On getting the money, they zoomed off on their bikes", Anyanwu said.

He explained that on sighting the police team in the area, the victim alerted the officers of his ordeal. "On noticing the complaint, the hoodlums shot at the police, who chased them (robbers) and shot down two of them while the other hoodlums, who sustained gunshot wounds were picked up", he said.

The suspects were paraded before journalists.

On Monday night, a lecturer in the Benue State University, Dr. Gwa Jande, was shot dead near his residence by assailants.

Also that same night, suspected cult members attacked a student around the Ankpa Quarters area, leaving him in a pool of his blood. He was later rushed to a public hospital in the state capital.

Jande, a former dean, Faculty of Law in the university, was relaxing with friends at a bar close to Aondo Yavenga Guest House when four gunmen emerged from the dark, went straight to his table and shot him dead.

The gunmen took away his mobile phone and left without harming any other person that sat with the victim.

Benue State Police Command Public Relations Officer, Mr. Samuel Jinadu, confirmed the assassination of the don.

The police in Borno have identified 60 black-spots in the state that would be manned by members of the Operation Flush II to check the activities of bandits, the Police Commissioner, Dega Chris, has said.

He spoke yesterday in his office in Maiduguri on the measures the police had taken against robbers and communal clashes in the state.

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