

Gunmen kill journalist

From Alemma-Ozoruvu Aliu and Michael Egbejule, Benin City

A CRIME reporter, Sashua Edeghagba, attached to *Bronze FM*, Benin, Federal Radio Corporation of Nigeria (FRCN)-owned station, was on Tuesday night shot dead by suspected armed robbers who had robbed in the area while he was fixing his car.

A policeman in mufti was also hit by the robbers' bullets as they attempted to run from the scene of their attack when residents tried to foil their operation.

According to the Controller, News of *Bronze FM*, Olufemi Fulani, there was a robbery operation going on near the place where Edeghagba went to repair his car.

The policeman is said to be in an undisclosed hospital while Edeghagba's body has been deposited at the mortuary.

Edeghagba was a father of three children and his wife was said to be pregnant with a fourth child.

The state Commissioner of Police, Olayinka Balogun, said: "There was a robbery incident last night and one of the victims they robbed is a policeman who the robbers did not identify as one since he was in mufti."

Balogun further disclosed

that during the robbery incident, neighbours raised an alarm and started pursuing the robbers who opened fire, shooting sporadically to pave the way for their escape.

"In the process, their bullets hit a policeman and another person who was later identified as a journalist. They were not the direct targets of the hoodlums", he said.

This incident came exactly one month after a cameraman attached to the Independent Television (ITV) in the state was shot dead by unknown gunmen.



A part of the Electoral Institute of the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) in Abuja...yesterday

Lagos to issue e-certificates of occupancy

Gets N11b from land administration

By Kamal Tayo Oropo

THE Lagos State government has set a September 2012 date for the commencement of the issuance of electronic certificates of occupancy in a bid to gradually phase out the current one, which has been in existence for over 34 years.

The Permanent Secretary, Lagos State Lands Bureau, Hakeem Muri-Okunola, who spoke with journalists during a press briefing yesterday on the first year of the Governor Babatunde Fashola second term administration, said the bureau generated a turnover of N10,

955,933,272.35 billion on land administration in the last one year.

According to Muri-Okunola, the electronic C of O is designed to prevent all forms of unwholesome activities perpetrated by fraudsters and to deliver to the people a current international format that is acceptable.

He said of the amount recorded on land administration, N3.5 billion was generated from the processing governor consent, stressing that this year's revenue performance represented a shortfall compared to the over N13 billion generated in

the year 2010.

Muri-Okunola said the shortfall was brought about by the fact that almost all the government land schemes were fully subscribed and closed for further allocations.

"This challenging situation notwithstanding, I want to assure you that the bureau is poised to improve its revenue performance within this new year and beyond through a number of new land schemes and other revenue-enhancing programmes that will come on stream", he said.

The permanent secretary also raised alarm on the unscrupulous activities of individuals and communi-