

Smugglers Kill Two Months-Old Baby At Seme

By Wisdom Patrick and Femi Ogbonnikan, Lagos

Gunmen shot indiscriminately on Tuesday on Seme – Badagry Expressway and killed a two-month-old baby on its mother's back.

The vehicle (*Tokunboh*) smugglers in a white BMW car, apparently running from the law, opened fire to escape arrest.

Motorists and passers-by had to scamper for safety. A police source said the incident occurred near a diversion to the Lagos State Model School, Kankan.

The source could not say which of the Nigerian security agencies was pursuing the men because immediately the bullet hit the baby and the mother screamed, the Prado Jeep on the heel of the gunmen disappeared.

Witnesses said some people used their vehicles to block the highway. "So when they discovered that both sides of the road had been blocked, they stopped their car and tried to escape on foot. People ran after them until one of them was caught."

The suspect was taken to Kankan police station, where he allegedly made confessional statement.

He was quoted as saying that they specialised in smuggling vehicles for individuals and companies from Cotonou in Benin Republic to Nigeria.

In another development, police arrested a commercial bus driver and another suspect in Lagos for robbing passengers in their vehicle.

The two robbers, along with others on the run, operated along 7Up/old tollgate, Ikosi in a Volkswagen Faragon bus. They engaged a team of anti-robbery policemen attached to Ketu Division in gun battle before they were apprehended.