Smugglers Kill **Customs Officer** At Seme Border

By Wisdom Patrick SENIOR CORRESPONDENT, Lagos

An official of the Nigerian Customs Service (NCS) was allegedly killed on Saturday in Kankon, Badagry, a border town between Nigeria and Benin Republic by gunmen suspected to by smugglers. A policeman attached to the Fed-

eral Patrol Unit in the area said the incident happened at 4a.m last Saturday and that the entire area was

thrown into confusion. It was learnt that apart from the

late officer, three other people, including a policeman, sustained gunshot wounds. Tam sureone of the smugglers would not survive because he was shot by the police team," the source said...

It was also learnt that the smugglers were armed with AK47 rifles, while the Customs team had only two guns. The source said the Customs officer died on his way to the service medical centre in Badagary.

"He was shot twice, one in the back and the other one hithim somewhere around the neck, which made him to slump," the source added.

Effort to reach the authorities of the service for comment was not sucœssful.

The Lagos State Police Public Relations Officer, Olubode Ojajuni, refused to comment on the incident, which he described as Customs' affairs.