## Robbers Invade Bank In Edo

## • Two Feared Killed In Another Robbery Incident

By Uwakwe Abugu BUREAU CHIEF, Benin

A gang of armed robbers was on the loose in Orhionmwon council area of Edo State at the weekend, invading the Abudu branch of a first generation bank where they carted away unspecified amount of cash belonging to the bank and depositors, who were transacting business at the time of the raid.

The hoodlums numbering about 10 escaped unchallenged and operated at the Oga village axis of the Benin-Asaba express way where the passengers of a Hummer jeep with registration number XH 484BDG were robbed and beaten up to the extent that two persons are feared dead, reports said.

Police Area Commander for

Edo South, Isaac Eke, said the state Criminal Investigation Department (CID) was already handling the investigation into the incidents.

He however, declined further comments on the robbery attack. "I don't have details of the incidents. The CID is already handling the matter," he said.

Eye witnesses explained that the incident created a very rowdy scene in the town, headquarters of the Edo South Local Government Area all through last Friday after the invasion.

Sources at the scene of the operations hinted that the robbers were armed with very sophisticated arms, saying that they they fired several shots into the air to scare away any possible challengers. However, it was not stated what happened to the policemen, who

were supposed to be guarding the bank at the time the robbers struck, including the level of resistance they put up to ward of the attack.

It was also gathered that the bandits manhandled the manager of the bank, whose name was not disclosed as at the time of filing this report, but it was gathered that the hoodlums collected some N4(0,000) from the counter

Contacted, the state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Peter Ogboi told Sunday Independent that though he was aware of the incidents but that he had not been fully briefed.

On the raid on the passengers of the bus at Oga near Abudu, we gathered that two of those injured were feared dead while others have been taken to Aigbogun Hospital at Abudu for medical attention.