

Armed Robbers Kill Policeman, Injure Two Others In Delta

By Sunday Apah
Special Correspondent, Ughelli

A POLICE corporal attached to the Ozoro Police Division was last weekend killed by an armed robbery gang, leaving two other officers with bullet wounds.

The incident occurred in Ozoro, headquarters of Isoko North Local Government Area of Delta State.

It was reliably gathered that five police officers on patrol, were on their way to the Oramide area of Ozoro following a distress call put to them at about 2.00 a.m., that armed robbers were operating in the

area.

It was also gathered that no specific address was given; so the police went on patrol in the area without seeing any sign of robbery.

According to the source, another call was put to the police that made them to park their van to keep watch on the environment, when suddenly the armed robbers opened fire on them from their hideout.

One corporal, popularly called Ify, who is married to a police corporal with two little kids died instantly while the two other officers who sustained bullet wounds are receiving treatment at an undis-

closed hospital in the state.

Meanwhile, a senior police officer who spoke to journalists on grounds of anonymity, said the crime rate in the area increased following the emergence of the new *Oletulogbo* (chief of defence) of the kingdom.

The police officer alleged that the *Oletulogbo* adjudicate criminal cases in his house which is against the law, adding that he has been called to order several times but maintained a deaf ear.

It was also alleged that he set up a vigilante group in the community without the consent of the Divisional Police

Officer in the area.

It was equally alleged that the *Oletulogbo* possesses arms and ammunitions that the police are not aware of which led to his arrest following the killing of the police officer in the area.

However, when contacted, the *Oletulogbo* denied all the allegations, explaining that they were calculated attempts to tarnish his image.

When contacted, Police Public Relation Officer, Delta State Police Command, Charles Muka, confirmed the story, saying investigation is still in progress to bring the perpetrators to book.

Expert Ties Economic Recovery To Emergence Of Sound Banks

By Rotimi Durojaiye and Kingsley Ighomwenghian,
Reporting from Benin

NIGERIA'S economic recovery on a sustainable basis was on Tuesday tied to the convincing resolution of the ongoing banking crisis, amid hopes that such may begin to be realised

towards the end of this year, going by current statistics.

Speaking at the ongoing workshop organised by the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) for business editors and finance correspondents in Benin City, Edo State, Biodun Adedipe, blamed the intensity of the crisis on the absence of an institutional framework to deal with such crisis.

According to Adedipe, managing partner, Biodun Adedipe