

One killed as robbers attack bank in Enugu

By Emmanuel Nzomiwu
Correspondent, Enugu

ONE person was killed at the weekend as armed robbers attacked a branch of First Bank Plc at Ovoko in Igboeze South local government area of Enugu State.

According to eye-witnesses, the bandits attempted to forcefully gain entrance into the bank premises on Friday night, but

they were warded off by security operatives on duty at the bank, who replied fire for fire.

After a gun duel between the robbers and security operatives, which lasted about one hour, one person suspected to be one of the robbers, lay dead, while a policeman, Sergeant Ozievie Ayebabogna, sustained a serious injury.

The injured police Sergeant

was said to be responding to treatment at an undisclosed hospital at Ovoko.

When contacted, Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Enugu State Command, Ebere Amaraizu, confirmed the report.

He also confirmed that the injured police officer was responding to treatment at a nearby hospital.

Meanwhile, the Commis-

sioner of Police, Enugu State, Musa A. Daura, has applauded the gallantry of the policemen on guard duty at the bank when the robbers struck.

He also wished the injured cop a quick recovery, while assuring members of the public that the fleeing robbers would be arrested, stressing that hoodlums have no hiding place within his command.

Bloody 2015: Katsina lawmakers back Buhari

By Baba Ngeddu
Reporter, Kaduna

FEDERAL and state lawmakers from Katsina State under the Congress for Progressive Change (CPC) have thrown their weight behind the utterances on 2015 election by the party's presidential candidate in the last polls, General Muhammadu Buhari.

Addressing the press on Sunday in Kaduna, they re-emphasised that the country would be ungovernable if Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) led government failed to conduct free, fair and credible elections in 2015.

Coming from a closed-door meeting at the Jabi road office of the former Head of State, the lawmakers maintained that PDP is out to destabilise CPC.

They stressed that the purported expulsion of the National

Executive Committee (NEC) members of the party by some members was the handiwork of PDP.

The CPC lawmakers, who claimed to have discussed with their leader, Buhari, some knotty issues affecting the party and the nation at large, warned that if the PDP-led government rigged the 2015 elections, there would be bloodbath.

They said they stood solidly behind Buhari over his comment on the conduct of the 2015 general elections.

Buhari had, while receiving supporters from Niger State in his office in Kaduna, said if the next general elections were rigged, the scenario would be like that of a dog and a baboon engaged in a bloody battle of survival.

However, Senator Abu Ibrahim, who led the lawmakers to

Buhari's office, insisted that unless there were credible elections in 2015, the ruling party should be ready for battle.

Ibrahim, while disowning those that purportedly sacked the NEC of the party, condemned the action of the group, saying that "we know that this is the handiwork of the PDP sponsored detractors of the progress of our great party."

He called on the state governor, Shehu Shema, to immediately commence the process of conducting election into the 34 Local Government Council in the state.

"We condemn in totality, the wanton and systematic destruction of democratic principles in Katsina State by the by the government of Barrister Ibrahim Shehu Shema, the blatant refusal to conduct local government elections, the appointment

of illegal caretaker committee for local governments and withholding of monies meant for the development of the local councils.

"This action is a total breach of very clear provisions of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

"This fact is attested to by the passage of a bill on the floor of the Federal House of Representatives against the illegal action of the governments of the Katsina State and 25 other states of the Federation.

"We are not unaware of the moves by certain undemocratic elements to tinker with the tenure of local governments by attempting to manipulate the State House of Assembly. "We hereby call on the general public to resist this aspect of maladministration," he said.