

Three suspected armed robbers killed in Ondo

THE Police in Ore, headquarters of Odigbo Local

Government in Ondo State have killed three suspected armed robbers allegedly operating along the Ore / Benin highway. The robbers were said to be part of an armed gang terrorizing motorists and passengers on the busy highway in recent time.

Similarly in Lagos, two armed robbers were killed yesterday at Apapa in Lagos during a bank raid.

The robbers who were six in number came on three motor bikes to the bank's premises on Burma Road, Apapa, around 12.00 noon.

Narrating the Ondo incident to *The Nation*, a reliable police source said the robbers who were 16 in number had taken advantage of the poor condition of the road to mount a road block at one of its portions where they were dispossessing motorists and passengers of their belongings at gun point before they met their Waterloo in the hands of policemen from Ore divisional police station who were on patrol of the area.

The source further stated that the sight of the policemen by the robbers led to an exchange of gunfire during which three of the robbers died in the gun duel while the others fled into the bush.

When *The Nation* visited the

• Two others in Lagos

Jude ISIGUZO and
Abayomi DARAMOLA,
Ondo

Ore divisional Police Station over the matter, the Divisional Police Officer in Charge of the station, Mr David Igbo (CSP), confirmed the incident but refused to comment further citing instruction from above. He however referred the reporter to the Police Public Relation Officer (PPRO), Mr Aremu Adeniran, an Assistant Superintendent of Police (ASP) for further clarification.

When the reporter contacted Mr Adeniran over the matter, he confirmed the incident adding that several items which include double barrel guns and charms were recovered from the scene of the robbery while the corpses of the slain robbers had been deposited at the Ore General Hospital.

The Police Public Relation officer however said effort was being intensified by the police to track down the remaining robbers who are said to escape into the bush with bullet wounds.

In the Lagos incident, the robbers who were six in number came on three motor bikes to the bank's premises on Burma Road, Apapa, around 12.00 noon. The robbers who had earlier snatched an unspecified

amount of money from a customer of one of the new generation banks on Warehouse Road, Apapa were trailed by policemen who were on patrol from the Apapa division.

It was gathered that the robbers made attempt to rob the bank. The policemen who were closely behind them opened fire and killed about 2 of them before they could gain entry into the banking hall.

During the exchange of gun-fire other members of the gang were reported to have abandoned the operation and taken to their heels while the policemen chased them.

Two other members were injured while trying to escape while the policemen recovered two pistols, one locally made double barrel gun cut to size and an English pistol. They also recovered one of the operational motor bike abandoned by the robbers.

The *Nation* gathered that the dead bodies of the two armed robbers were displayed in front of the Apapa Police Station.

The commissioner of Police reacting to the foiled operation said Lagosians should be calm and co-operate with the police to enable them achieve more success.