

Robbers terrorise Oke-Ogun

THERE has been an upsurge in robbery attacks in Oke Ogun area of Oyo State.

The crime is allegedly being perpetrated by Fulani cattle rearers, aged between 22 and 28 years, popularly known as Bororos.

Several motorists have been shot dead, while others sustained injuries.

Many residents have also been dispossessed of their belongings, forcing them to relocate to other towns like Ibadan, Oyo and Ogbomoso.

Recently, the leader of the hunters that have been helping the police in fighting crime was killed by the robbers at his residence in Otu.

The robbers, who always

From Bode Durojalye, Oyo

cover their faces, unleash terror mostly at day time with arrows, guns, cutlasses and charms.

They usually appear from the forest to carry out their nefarious activities and in less than an hour disappear into thin air.

They do not snatch cars, but are only after money and on few occasions mobile phones and jeweleries.

The NATION investigation revealed that the robbers capitalise on the undulating terrain of the Oke-Ogun roads. The roads are also bushy that it is difficult for motorists coming on both sides to see each other.

Armed policemen are present on the roads, but

they stay away from each other with some kilometres distance.

Motorized patrols are a difficult task, hence the use of motorcycles for surveillance and operations. This they do in conjunction with vigilante groups.

These joint efforts resulted in the arrest of 11 robbery suspects paraded in Oyo town by the Area Commander, Assistant Commissioner Felix Vwambi, recently.

Despite that, the thieves still operate in guerilla-like manner as they strike intermittently from their hide-outs in the forest to attack motorists and residents, and within a short time vanished, heightening tension and fear among residents

and motorists.

Some of the residents who spoke with our correspondent called on the state government to mandate all the seven local government chairmen in the area to clear the thick bushes, 500 metres away from the roads.

Messrs Simbiat Alaba, from Iseyin, Yekini Adunni, from Otu, Yakubu Aliyu, from Ipapo, Adamo Lewis, from Tede, and Yemi Adams, from Ago-Are, also called on Inspector-General of Police Ogbonna Onovo to provide an helicopter for effective surveillance and aerial viewing.

Some motorists also called on the federal and state governments to rehabilitate the roads, which they said have become death traps.