

# Robbers gun down 5 police men, raid 6 banks

By RALPH OKHIRIA,  
Benin

**R**AMPAGING armed robbers in the early hours of Wednesday, killed five police men, burnt a commercial house and raided six commercial banks in Benin. *New Nigerian Weekly* investigation revealed that dare-devil armed robbers who were about 20 in number, arrived the area in two 18-seater buses stocked with their weapons at about 1 a.m.

They killed four policemen at a check-point at the Ramat Park, Ikpoba Hill axis of Benin on their way to the robbery scene.

They later attacked the United Bank for Africa (UBA), Union Bank of Nigeria (UBN), Skye Bank, Zenith and IBTC International Bank, all in Benin.

The hoodlums who succeeded in gaining entry only into Skye Bank where they killed a policeman, removed unspecified mount of money and also set a house containing

printing press and an electrical store ablaze.

It was learnt that the armed men who positioned themselves at different locations in the area before they commenced their attack on the Skye Bank, shot sporadically into the air ostensibly to scare people away.

While the operation was going on, men of the Nigeria Police stationed at the Central

Bank of Nigeria (CBN), same road the robbers were operating said to have arrived the scene with an armoured vehicle but the robbers reacted swiftly by puncturing their four tyres with bullets fired by the armed bandits.

Due to the punctured tyres, the police armoured vehicle was said to have veered off the road ramming into two vehicles parked by the road side in the

process before coming to a halt.

However, the police did not relent as they re-enforced several times to out-number the armed bandits who later beat retreat when it was obvious to them that the police were winning the battle.

Benin Police Area Commander Mr. Isaac Eke, who confirmed could not specify the number of police casualties.

## Anxiety in Oyo PDP as Ladoja's posters

*from front page*

down as one of the PDP candidates to be drop from contesting the April polls.

The posters have inscriptions such as "Ko si Wolu, ko si Ibo", meaning, if there is no Wolu [Adewolu Ladoja], there is no vote, Rashidi Ladoja, tested and Trusted." "For good governance and Accountability, PDP give us Senator Rashidi Ladoja".

In almost all the areas where Governor Ladoja's posters were pasted, the posters of Otunba Akala as the PDP

## flood state

governorship candidate for the 2007 polls were destroyed especially at Bere area of Ibadan.

Contacted on the emergence of Governor Ladoja's posters for the April governorship election, the Special Adviser to the governor on Media Matters, Prince Ade Adeganmbi said there was nothing wrong with it.

Prince Adeganmbi stated that President Olusegun Obasanjo has just spoken on

the governorship candidacy of the party, adding the pasting of the posters is an on-going process.

However, Oyo state PDP while speaking through its public relations officer, Alhaji Yahaya Adetunji disowned Governor Ladoja's posters, stressing that the governor was never an aspirant in the party not to talk of his becoming Oyo PDP governorship candidate.

Alhaji Adetunji pointed out that "as far as we are concerned I can tell you that the party doesn't know anything about it and it should be disregarded as he is not our candidate".

"Let me tell you, we know that he is trying to cause confusion in the state and embarrass our great party, the PDP. As far as we are concerned, Akala still remains the PDP governorship candidate.

## PDP'll industrialise Nigeria

By FRANCIS AYIGBE,  
Lagos

**V**ICE-presidential candidate of the Peoples Democratic Party in the April polls, Dr. Goodluck Jonathan said he is hopeful that the party's potentials will turn Nigeria into

— *Jonathan*  
only industrialize if we have access to cheap source of energy."

The candidate who is also the governor of Bayelsa State also frowned at those who he said

of votes and other electoral malpractices.

Dr. Goodluck said the underdevelopment in the areas were allowed to go on for long time," but we will curtail it."

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