

Business & Economy

FEAR GRIPS TRADERS AS ROBBERY TERRORIZE MARKET

From ABDULLAH
YAKUBU, Dutse

BUSINESSMEN in the local Shuwarin market are being forced to sleep with one eye open as a result of series of attacks by armed robbers who always subject their victims to humiliation before depriving them of their belongings.

New Nigerian investigation revealed that the suspected armed robbers in their usual

attack had stage a come back to the market last Monday and open fire on one of the traders one Alhaji Sa'idu and left him in his own pool of blood as well as injuring about seven people while an unknown person lost his life in the process.

It was gathered that the robbers who were in the market with their native attires disguised as businessmen before they later identified their target victims.

Speaking on the robbery incident the state Commissioner of Police, Barrister Hashimu Salihu Argungu confirmed the death of two people, one in each of the operation in Shuwarin and Kiyawa villages respectively.

The CPMPO said there are no details of the robbery as at the time of filing in this report "but I called the area commander and the Divisional

Police Officer of Kiyawa local government for adequate information on the robbery episode".

Barrister Salihu noted that the robbers raided the market and shot many people as result of which one died before he was taken to the Hospital. He said other victims of the attack are currently receiving treatment at the Dutse General Hospital and Rashid

Shekoni Specialist Hospital.

According to him, "on the issue of Kiyawa it was one Alhaji Shehu Safiyanu Ayema that was the target and when they could not find him they resorted in killing his one of his child.

The CPMPO said the Police are still investigating the matter and promised to fish out the culprits very soon.

An eye witness who wit-

nessed how the episode took place in Shuwarin market one Musa Ahmed told the *New Nigerian* that the robbers arrived the market around 6.30 p.m. when all the traders were getting ready to close their shops for the day but could not met Alhaji Sa'idu and waited for him until much later when he arrived and they started shooting at him sporadically injuring one of his legs.

In his words "I saw them, they were five in number, one of them wore a mask".

On her part, the Nurse on duty at the Dutse General Hospital, who spoke on condition of anonymity said where the victims were firstly admitted, told our correspondent that "one of the victims was brought to the Hospital dead, while five were at the theatre for Surgery in order to remove the bullets and two were admitted in the ward".

Speaking to *New Nigerian* one of the victims, Hamisu Saidu, said that he was in his house near the market when a stray bullet hit him, his father and his 10-year-old sibling, Haruna Saidu, who were also shot by armed robbers all admitted in the same hospital.

Another victim, Labasi Nuhu, said he was returning from the market where he went to collect his mobile phone which he gave someone to charged the battery for him when he run into the men of underworld.

"They shot me on the thigh and I felled down and one vehicle hit me and broke my of my legs" Labasi stated.

US Senate passes bill to pressure China on yuan

THE US Senate has voted through a bill that aims to put pressure on China to increase the value of its currency, the yuan.

Some lawmakers argue that the Chinese yuan has been kept artificially undervalued, giving the country an unfair advantage and hitting US jobs.

The legislation passed the Democrat-led Senate 63-35, putting it through to the House of Representatives.

However, the bill is unlikely to be passed by the House.

Trade war

House Republican leaders agree with many business groups that action against China could result in a trade war.

The Obama administration has indicated it would prefer

as unfairly state-subsidised.

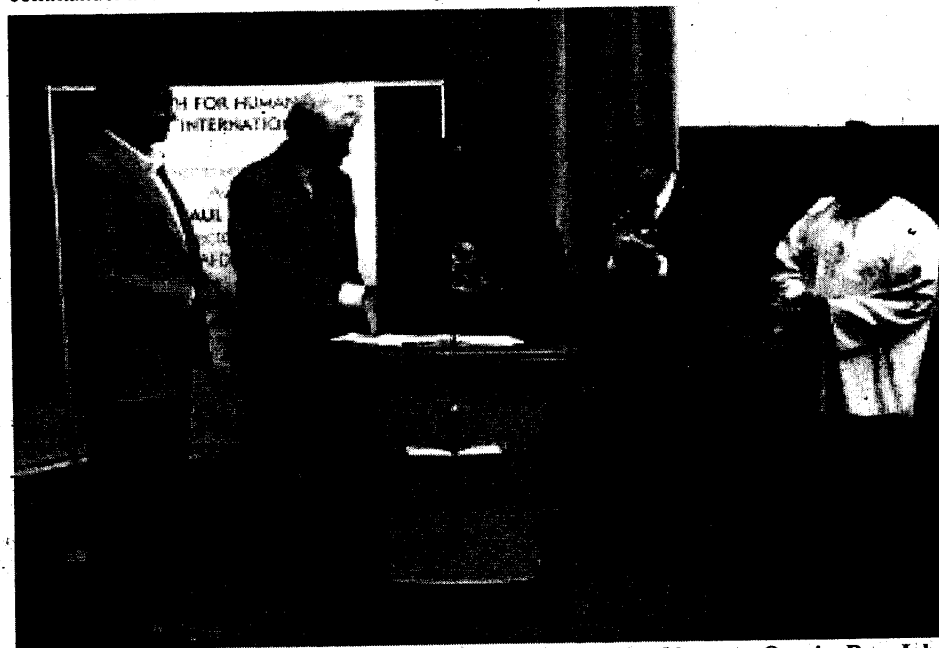
Most analysts say the Chinese yuan is undervalued against the US dollar by 25 per cent to 30 per cent, with some US lawmakers putting the difference up to 40 per cent.

There has been some appreciation of the yuan in the past year, but not enough to appease critics.

Damaging relations?

Recent comments in the Chinese media have shown fierce opposition to the bill, saying the trade imbalance between the two countries is a result of US economic policies and not the exchange rate.

Advertisement US lawmakers have passed a bill that could punish China for the artificially low value of the yuan.



From left; Director of Youth for Human Rights Int'l, Mr. Okoruwa Osagie, Rev. John Carmichael, Coordinator for Youth for Human Rights Int'l, Dr. Paul Orhii, Director-General NAFDAC, Dr. Shahid Husain, Special Adviser to UN on South-South Cooperation and Mr. Hashim Yusufu Ubale Director of Narcotics NAFDAC at the presentation of the "Exemplary Leadership Award" to the Director General..... recently.