

Gunmen attack passenger bus in A'Ibom, kill driver

INI OBONG EKPONTA - UYO

GUNMEN suspected to be a member cult group on Tuesday attacked a bus, shooting the driver dead, while the passengers sustained injuries.

According to an eyewitness, a motorcyclist, Efiong Obot, the incident occurred at about 5:00 a.m, at Ikot Andem portion of the Ukanafun-Ekparakwa highway.

Obot explained that the driver of the bus was conveying passengers, who were mostly women, to Ibeno beach to buy fish, crayfish and other sea foods.

The eyewitness said the refusal of the driver to stop when flagged down by the bandits forced them to shoot at the bus, killing the driver in the process.

He said the women traders, who were about seven, were robbed of their cash, mobile phones and other valuables.

Another eyewitness, who did not disclose his identity, told the **Nigerian Tribune** that the gunmen, numbering about four, emerged from the bush and stopped them on the road, ordering the driver to come out of the bus.

He said: "The driver, known as Eyak Benson, was shot at close range when he tried to struggle for the control of the bus with the gunmen.

"We were travelling to buy fish at Ibeno beach, but at a point on the highway, we were stopped by the gunmen, who asked us to keep quiet as they went for the driver.

"We just heard gunshots and immediately, they ordered for our mobile phones and money, before disappearing into the bush."

When contacted, the state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), DSP Odiko Macdon, said he was yet to be briefed on the incident.

60-yr-old man of Indian hemp

OLA LEKAN OLABULO - LAGOS

A 60-year-old man, Tajudeen Atanda, and one other person, Rasheed Kehinde (31) have been arrested by the police in Lagos State while conveying seven bags of Indian hemp to Maroko area of the state.

A **Volkswagen Golf** car and seven bags of weeds, suspected to be Indian hemp, were recov-

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