

Police kill armed robber in Ibadan

By OLUWATOYIN MALIK

ONE of the armed robbers who had been giving Ibadan, the Oyo State capital, sleepless nights through their armed robbery activities, met his Waterloo in the early hours of Tuesday, as he was shot dead during an exchange of gunfire with the police.

Nigerian Tribune learnt that the armed robber, whose identity remains unknown, was a member of a five-man gang which operated at Solanke Street, behind St Annes School, Olorunsogo and Keshinro areas of the city, at about 3.30a.m.

A reliable source within the community told the **Nigerian Tribune** that the armed robbers were moving

from one place to another and were able to forcefully enter three buildings where they took laptops, phones, cash and jewellery from their victims.

The source said that when the armed robbers started operating at Solanke Street, some of the residents put a call through to the Divisional Police Officer at Felele Division.

The source added that by the time the police got to the scene, the armed robbers had left for another area.

The police, who noted that the armed robbers were fleeing immediately they sensed police presence, decided to lay ambush for them at likely escape routes around the community.

Their efforts were said to have paid off when they sighted the five suspects,

with two of them holding guns and two others carrying bags suspected to contain items stolen from victims.

"We learnt that as the policemen flashed a torch at the hoodlums, they shot in the direction of the police, causing them to respond by also firing back.

"Three of the armed robbers were hit by the police bullets, but two of the injured escaped, while one fell into the river at Ehin Grammar Area.

"The police later saw a bag containing some of the items belonging to our people. They found laptops and handsets in the bag," the source further disclosed.

Nigerian Tribune gathered that the body of the dead gang member was found washed aside

in the river, with bullet wounds on his thigh and lower abdomen at about 7.50 a.m.

Some of the items looted, such as jewellery and cash, were reportedly found in his pocket when searched.

In the past few days, armed robbers had terrorized residents of the city, as members of the public whose communities were raided told the **Nigerian Tribune** to help in calling the attention of the security agencies in the state to their plight.

It was learnt that armed robbers were at Suara Akande Street, behind Capital Building, Ring Road Ibadan, in the early hours of Sunday, and were able to gain access to a building before they were dislodged by the police.

They were also said to have raided Gbekuba area of on same day, with victims saying that armed robbers entered their houses stark naked, making attempts to rape, while they disposed some victims of their belongings.

The method of robbing without putting on clothes was said to have been adopted to make the armed robbers' escape easy when being pursued.

When contacted, the Police Public Relation Offi-

cer in the state, Adekunle Ajisebutu, confirmed the death of the armed robber, saying that the body had been deposited in the mortuary while investigation had commenced in the incident.

He added that the state Commissioner of Police, Abiodun Odude had appealed to hospitals, traditional healing homes and members of the public to notify the police in case they sight anyone with bullet wounds.

Police arrest 34 suspected cultists in Asaba hotel Kingpin escapes through window

ALPHONSUS AGBORH
- ASABA

AT least 34 suspected cultists have been arrested in Asaba, Delta State, follow-

"That was how they were arrested, and they are suspected cultists. However, the kingpin who led that attack on the police vehicle last week was in a room with