

Robbers shoot police officer dead in Delta

SUSPECTED armed robbers on Tuesday shot dead a deputy superintendent of police (DSP) in Asaba, Delta State during a robbery attempt at a residential neighbourhood in the state capital, the *News Agency of Nigeria* (NAN) has reported.

The robbery was, however, repelled by men of Operation Still Water II of the 63 Brigade, Nigerian Army, Asaba.

The Brigade's Chief of Staff, Colonel Ibrahim Gambari, paraded the suspects and items recovered from them.

He said 141 suspects were

subsequently arrested after Tuesday's early morning robbery attempt.

Colonel Gambari said troops arrested eight of the suspects at the crime scene; two were shot and wounded while two others fled with bullet wounds.

"At about 3:00a.m. on Tuesday, men of Operation Still Water II responded to a distress call about the robbery.

"We got there and met an exchange of gunfire. The robbers had gunned down a police officer and our men

engaged them in another gun duel.

"In the process, two of the suspects were shot and captured along with eight others, while two others managed to escape with bullet wounds.

"After the incident, troops

swooped on criminal hot-spots in the area and arrested another 135 suspects.

"We also recovered a locally-made pistol with live cartridge at the scene of crime and many items stolen from residents of the neighbourhood," he said.