

# Robbers besiege filling-station, butcher resident

**Kunle Adeyemi**

A gang of armed robbers besieged an AP filling-station on 21 Road, Festac Town, Lagos in the early hours of Monday and butchered a resident.

The robbers, numbering over 10, were said to have stormed the filling-station at about 2am to cart away whatever proceeds the attendants had made for the day.

It was learnt that due to the current fuel scarcity being experienced in the country, the filling-station opened in the evening and sold into the early hours of Monday.

An eyewitness told our correspondent that some residents living close to the filling-station took advantage of the late night sale of fuel to stay away outside their houses.

Immediately the robbers, who were armed with guns and cutlasses, got to the filling station, some of them reportedly went straight for the attendants while others took strategic positions.

As the robbers made efforts to rob the filling-station, a man said to be a carpenter, was standing about 100 metres away from the scene where he was witnessing events unfolding.

The man, our correspondent learnt, suddenly began to shout "ole, ole" meaning "thief, thief," with the hope that his alarm would call other people's attention to the scene.

The robbers, however, noticed the man and gave him a

chase. He was shot at and as he fell down, some members of the gang drew their cutlasses and began to butcher him.

Although the scene of the incident was very close to the Festac Police Station, no security officer was around or got to the filling-station before the bandits concluded their operation and fled.

When our correspondent got to the scene on Monday morning, about 30 policemen were seen gathered in the area, apparently crying over spilt milk.

Some persons were also seen gathering the dismembered body of the victim into a zinc for possible disposal or

## Osun explosion: We won't allow politicisation of case – Police

**Tunde Odesola, Osogbo**

POLICE authorities have said that slow recuperation of the victim of last Thursday's explosion at the Osun Government Secretariat, Abere, was the reason for the slow pace of investigation.

The survivor of the explosion, who has been on admission since Thursday, has not fully recovered from the effect and shock of the blast.

Our correspondent gathered that the police were expecting the survivor to lead them to unravel the motive behind the blast.

It was gathered that the survivor, who managed to speak with detectives after he regained consciousness on Friday, had revealed that the three occupants of the Peugeot

removal to the mortuary.

A senior police officer at the station, who confirmed the robbery, however, said the bandits were attacking a residential building and not a filling-station.

Spokesman for the Lagos State Police Command, Mr. Olubode Ojajuni, also confirmed the incident to our correspondent on Monday.

Ojajuni said the victim actually raised the alarm when the robbers came and he immediately became the first target of the robbers.

He said although nobody had been arrested in connection with the crime, the police were investigating the incident.

505 salon car were on the way to Ondo State for a burial function.

Police Public Relations Officer, Osun Command, Mr. Joshua Olayemi, in a telephone interview with our correspondent on Sunday, explained that the police were waiting for the survivor to fully recover before detectives begin to quiz him.

According to Olayemi, the explanation by the survivor that the vehicle and its occupants were coming from Lagos to Ondo State would be investigated.

He said, "The police would like to know the mission of the occupants to Ondo. Why did they branch off in Osun? What is the explosion meant for? There are so many issues that our investigations would throw up."

Customs officers in fisticuffs with owner