

Four feared dead in Warri robbery

Emmanuel Addeh, Warri

FOUR persons, including a teenage girl, were feared dead in Warri, Delta State on Wednesday after an armed gang went on the rampage in the oil-rich city.

The armed robbers, our correspondent gathered, were suspected to be on the trail of a man suspected to have withdrawn a huge sum of money from a new generation bank around Airport Junction.

The robbers, eyewitnesses recounted, shot one person at the junction close to the very busy Warri/Sapele Road to scare people.

He was intercepted by the gunmen around Water Resources Junction where they (robbers) opened fire on his vehicle.

While escaping from the robbers, the victim reportedly rammed the vehicle into a Mercedes Benz marked AH493 SKL and thereafter knocked down a motorcyclist who died instantly.

The hoodlums, who reportedly operated for hours thereafter killed an occupant of an Acura Sport Utility van, marked AP 126 EFR. The driver of the vehicle and its owner, who sustained injuries from gunshots were rushed to a nearby clinic.

The ensuing chaos led to multiple accidents on the popular Warri/Sapele Road, where one other person died in the process.

Though, it was not clear if the armed gang succeeded in carting away the cash, eyewitnesses, including some

bank workers around the area, told journalists that they saw the bandits with bags.

The situation resulted in traffic gridlock at the scene of the incident.

There was no police presence at the scene hours after the robbery.

The Sector 1 Commander of the Joint Task Force, Brigadier-General Enang Ukang, told journalists that security in the metropolis had been intensified.

He said, "I have asked my men to be on the alert this period, because we have been hearing so many stories of kidnapping and robbery in the metropolis. And because the festive period is here, these hoodlums are trying to terrorise the people but we are going to crush them."