

Bandits kill policeman, pregnant woman, others in P'Harcourt

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ARMED robbers on Monday carted away undisclosed amount of money after killing a police sergeant, two employees of Multinet Communications, and a bystander in Port Harcourt.

A riot policeman, trekking by the roadside, was said to have been hit in the leg by the hoodlums that operated with a Mazda saloon car.

The bandits, according to an eyewitness account, trailed their victims, including a pregnant woman, who were occupants of a black Volkswagen Jetta saloon car from Rumuokuta Road towards Rumuola Road

operated with sub-machine guns, opened fire on the three occupants of the Jetta car.

It was learnt that before the killing of the victims, the armed robbers (three men and two women) had been angered by the driver of a Toyota Camry car, who deliberately blocked the road to stop them from achieving their aim.

A female member of the gang had shot at the driver of the Toyota Camry car, who took to his heels after blocking the road with his car. The driver was lucky to have escaped.

"After the escape of the driver that was seen by the bandits as an intruder, the armed robbers faced the three occupants of the Jetta car and rained bullets on them.

"The people in that Jetta car died instantly. Many people ran for their dear lives and the armed robbers operated without being hurt," an eyewitness, who is a trader on Rumuokuta Road, told our correspondent.

Having killed their victims, the robbers picked up a Ghana-must-go bag said to contain huge sums of money before making a U-turn and

speeding off to an unknown destination.

At the Psychiatric Road Junction along Rumuola/Rumuokuta Road, where Zenith Bank and First Bank are located, the armed robbers, who probably thought the police had laid ambush for them, shot into the air to scare away any possible intruder.

A security official, who spoke on the condition of anonymity, said banks located along the road hurriedly shut down following the robbery attack.

The state Police Public

Relations Officer, Mr. Ben Ugwuogbulam, confirmed that a vehicle belonging to Multinet Communications was attacked by robbers.

Ugwuogbulam explained that a police sergeant and two employees of the company were shot and robbed of an undisclosed quantity of GSM recharge cards.

He said, "They were rushed to the hospital where a doctor confirmed them dead. Stray bullets from the hoodlums also injured a passer-by, who is receiving treatment in a clinic. Investigation is ongoing while search for the hoodlums is intensified."

Briefly

Kano State varsity

WORK at the site of the new Kano State University commenced this month. The institution is expected to be fully functional in the 2012 academic session.

Governor Rabi'u Kwankwaso said this in Kano on Monday while addressing the chairmen of committees coordinating the take-off of 18 institutions established by the state government this year.

Kwankwaso said the state Reformatory Institute would commence this month while about 400 youths were currently undergoing training at the Animal Traction Institute as tractor