

... City, Crime, Courts

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How gunmen killed others during Delta

Matthew Ochei, Asaba

A police officer, a vigilante leader and four others have been killed during a bank robbery in Issele-Uku, Aniocha North Local Government Area of Delta State.

PUNCH Metro gathered that the incident happened on Tuesday around 5:30pm at the branch of a first generation bank beside the palace of the traditional ruler of the town.

The robbers were said to have unleashed terror on the town and were uninterrupted for almost one hour.

When our correspondent visited the robbery scene on Wednesday, residents of the area were still in panic over the incident.

An eyewitness, who spoke to our correspondent on condition of anonymity, said some of the robbers were stationed at strategic positions in the town, while others operated in the bank unhindered.

He said customers were held hostage inside the bank for almost an



• Scene of the robbery

hour, while the gang members outside were shooting indiscriminately.

The eyewitness stated,

"Unfortunately, four persons died in the operation while many were injured and were rushed to hospital.

"During the shooting spree, a trader identified as an indigene of Issele-Uku from Ogbeofu village

Two arrested for dispossessing

Taraba man allegedly catches fiancée with ex-boyfriend, commits

Justin Tyopuusu, Jalingo

A 31-year old man, Jivini Jonnan, has allegedly committed suicide after drinking an insecticide in the Wukari Local Government Area of Taraba State.

Jonnan was said to have taken his life after discovering that his fiancée had jilted him and returned to her former

boyfriend.

A family source told our correspondent that the deceased was heartbroken after he caught his fiancée in a room with her ex-boyfriend and telling him that she was no longer interested in their relationship despite the fact that they had completed the traditional marriage rites.

The source stated, "They had gone through the

traditional marriage rites and she because they had been in the relationship for years.

"The traditional wedding was held in a room, where they both consented to the marriage."

"Jonnan was called by his friend and they saw his fiancée with her ex-boyfriend."

policemen, five bank raid

was shot dead, while many others sustained bullet wounds."

The member representing the Aniocha North Constituency in the state House of Assembly, Mr Emeka Nwaobi, who visited the scene, lamented the recurrence of bank robbery in the community.

He said, "It is unfortunate that a police officer and a vigilante chairman died in the process. I am just coming back from where I went to visit the family of the vigilante chairman."

"The report I have is that four persons were shot dead along the street, and after the attack, the police and the Aniocha Security Watch went after the robbers in the bush."

"A policeman and the leader of the vigilante were also shot dead in the process. It is very unfortunate. We had a similar incident at the same bank sometime ago."

"I was here yesterday (Tuesday) during the robbery. What happened is a challenge to all Deltans; security personnel should put things in order."

The acting Police Public Relations

Officer in the state, Bright Edeaf, said in a statement on Wednesday that around 4pm, heavily armed hoodlums attacked the Issele-Uku branch of the bank and the Divisional Police Headquarters.

He stated, "During the attack, dynamites were used by the hoodlums to destroy the security doors of the banking hall and they

LCC rescues injured pedestrian dumped by hit-and-run driver

Oluwatosin Omojuyigbe

A yet-to-be-identified pedestrian, who was knocked down by a hit-and-run driver, was on Wednesday rescued by the officials of the Lekki Concession Company.

It was gathered that the victim was dumped by the roadside at the Igbo Efon area of the Lekki-Epe Expressway by the hit-and-run driver, who sped off immediately.

Our correspondent learnt

made away with an undisclosed amount of money. The police station was simultaneously attacked and riddled with bullets.

"The Commissioner of Police, Delta State, Ari Muhammed Ali, quickly mobilised patrol teams from the state police headquarters, Asaba, to Issele-Uku, led by the DC Operations, DCP Olaleye Faleye, who engaged the hoodlums in a gun duel."

"The hoodlums escaped in two vehicles but were chased and

that an eyewitness reported the incident to the LCC route patrol team, who rescued and administered first aid treatment to the victim before taking the victim to hospital.

Commenting on the incident, the Head of LCC Route and Incident, Michael Aina, said the timely intervention of the agency helped in saving the life of the victim.

He said, "The LCC makes it a point of duty to ensure commuters' safety and security in Eti-Osa on the Lekki-Epe Expressway, as this is one of the company's core obligations."

"As users of the express road will testify, despite the toll plaza not being operational since

consequently abandoned their vehicles and escaped into the bush."

"However, an inspector of police, an Aniocha Security Watch vigilante member and a civilian died, while one of the hoodlums was killed and their vehicles, which were full of blood, were recovered."

The PPRO said items recovered from the robbers included one AK-47 rifle with breach No. 9558 with empty magazine and painted in the police colour."

He appealed to members of the public with useful information that would aid the arrest of the hoodlums to volunteer such information to the police."



• The victim being attended to

and security patrol to all road users plying the Eti-Osa Lekki-Epe Expressway."

\$1.6m dud cheque

Oluwatosin Omojuyigbe

THE Economic and Financial

Ogun merchant