

NATIONAL NEWS

Again, 2 motorbike robbers set ablaze

FROM ALOYSIUS ATTAH, ONITSHA

Barely two weeks after two motorbike armed robbers were set ablaze for reportedly trying to snatch money from a Northern trader, along the Onitsha/Enugu expressway, another two robbers suffered same fate yesterday along the Nkpor/Awka Old Road, Nkpor.

The two hoodlums met their Waterloo in the evening when they tried to snatch a lady's bag along Limca Road, Nkpor.

The two robbers, armed with pistols, according to eye-witnesses, had double-crossed a lady who rode on a commercial motorcycle with a Ghana-must-go bag filled with money and heading towards a bank for deposit, and allegedly snatched the bag from her.

A source said as the lady believed to be a cashier to one of the petrol filling stations along the road was being taken to the bank, the armed robbers, with their own motorcycle closed in on them and ordered her to surrender the bag under gunpoint.

The source stated that the lady sensing danger and for fear of her life, surrendered the bag to them, but as they transferred the bag from the lady's motorcycle to their own and wanted to zoom off, luck ran out on them and their motorcycle somersaulted.

When some passersby chased them and at the same time alerted some security operatives at a filling station and others at a bank along the road, the robbers could not pick their motorcycle from the ground as they fled.

As they were running, the security operatives were shooting at them but the bullets could not hit them until they were caught by the mob, beaten to a pulp and set ablaze.

However, one of the robbers removed the burning tyre hung on his neck before being set ablaze and fled with the fire still on his body, but he could not go far before the mob re-arrested him, tied his hands and legs, pushed him into side drainage with his accomplice and re-set both of them ablaze.

The crowd disrupted traffic along the road for many hours, even as some members of Anambra Traffic Management Agency, (ATMA) were busy trying to control motorists.

The Divisional Police Officer (DPO), at Ogidi, Mr. Hassan Musa, told newsmen that although he heard about the incident, the scene was under the jurisdiction of Awada Police Division and not Ogidi jurisdiction.

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