

Fleeing armed robbers kill 3 in Imo

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From George Onyejiuwa, Owerri

Fleeing armed robbers, who allegedly snatched an unspecified amount of money from an aide of a member of the Imo State House of Assembly, shot three persons dead yesterday evening in Owerri, the Imo State capital, as they made their getaway.

Sunday Sun gathered that the four gunmen who operated in a Toyota Sienna car had blocked the aide with their own car at the very busy School road by MCC road junction.

The aide was said to have withdrawn the money from an undisclosed bank. In their bid to flee after shooting the aide in the hand and snatching the money, they shot sporadically to scare away passersby. In the process, a tricycle operator near the junction was killed while another passerby at Tetlow road was also killed by a stray bullet after missing a policeman, who was on duty on the street.

An eyewitness at one of the scenes of the incident at School road by MCC Junction, said that the bandits had trailed the unsuspecting aide to the point where they blocked him and robbed him of the huge amount of money, suspected to be in a foreign currency.

He said: "The armed men who were four in number, blocked the lawmaker's personal assistant who was driving a white Toyota Hilux at School Road by MCC junction and went straight to where a bag that apparently contained the money was in the car. But when the aide tried to stop them they shot him on one of his hands."

He said that the gunmen in the bid to escape shot sporadically and killed one tricycle operator instantly and injured others.

It was equally learnt that the hoodlums had killed two others at different points, as they shot indiscriminately while escaping from the metropolis.

When Sunday Sun reporter visited the scene, two lifeless bodies were still lying in a pool of their blood.

The Police Public Relations Officers of the Imo State Police Command, Andrew Enwerem, when contacted, confirmed the incident, but said he was yet to be officially briefed on the full details of the robbery incident