

Gunmen on rampage in Enugu, Ibadan

• Kill, injure policemen, 4 civilians, abduct 3

From **Geoffrey Anyanwu**, Enugu and **Oluseye Ojo**, Ibadan

GUNMEN, yesterday, went on rampage in Enugu, the State capital city, killing three policemen and abducting three civilians including a woman.

The incident, which took place near Cashew Bus Stop, close to Timber Junction, Loma Linda Estate Independent Layout, about noon, saw the gunmen attacking and killing the policemen at a checkpoint.

Confirming the incident at press time, the State Police

Public Relations Officer, Mr. Daniel Ndukwe, disclosed that the police have commenced a manhunt of the gunmen.

He said: "Information surrounding the incident is still sketchy. Meanwhile, a manhunt of the hoodlums has been initiated. Further development will be communicated."

However, Daily Sun gathered that the policemen were on stop and search when the gunmen who had allegedly kidnapped a man very close to Treasure Point, along Ugwuaji Road, stormed the checkpoint and opened fire, killing the three cops at the spot.

In the cause of the heavy

shooting, a tricycle (Keke) rider was said to have sustained gunshot wounds, while some other people sustained varying degrees of injuries as they tried to escape from the scene.

Sources said the hoodlums also kidnapped a woman and her driver who ran into them as they escaped.

A source told Daily Sun that "the gunmen kidnapped a man around that covert where they sell ties and it seems their gunshots attracted the police nearby and they tried to block them.

"We heard serious gunshots and believed they must have engaged the police in a shoot-

out which claimed the lives of three policemen. Their lifeless bodies were just there, one was found inside the gutter."

Also, seven people were feared dead as armed robbers attacked a bullion van at Idi-Ape, Ibadan, the Oyo State capital.

Daily Sun learnt that the incident occurred around 1:30pm, yesterday, and that three policemen and four civilians died in the attack.

The armed robbers were said to have driven in an unmarked Toyota Sienna and were in police uniform. The robbery operation took place very close to the Agodi Area Command of the Nigeria Police Force. There are up to six commercial banks within the

vicinity.

The armed robbers, according to eyewitnesses, were three in number and they carried sophisticated weapons. The seven persons were said to have lost their lives to volleys of gunfire.

But the armed robbers were not successful in the operation as they could not hijack the bullion van before they fled. But the impacts of the gunshots were evident on the bullion van.

A visit to the scene revealed that people in the buildings, including law offices, banks and shops, scampered for safety and many of them prostrated on the floor to ensure that the bullets did not get to them when staccato of gunfire rent the atmosphere of Idi Ape, which is the place where dare-devil armed robbers robbed many banks and killed many people in 2008.

The attacked bullion van has been towed to an undisclosed location by security men from Idi-Ape.

Meanwhile, the Commissioner of Police in the state, Mrs. Ngozi Onadeko, who visited the scene, said two policemen were shot, but did not confirm the death of anybody. (Continued on www.sunnewsonline.com)

NDLEA seizes 40,250kg codeine worth N2bn at Lagos port

By **Emma Njoku**

The National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) has seized 40,250 kilograms of the schedule 2 controlled narcotic worth over N2 billion imported in two 40ft containers from India.

Director, Media and Advocacy of the agency, Mr. Femi Babafemi, who made the disclosure, yesterday, in a statement, said

operation of other port stakeholders such as Customs, Department of State Services (DSS), Navy and others.

"The latest consignments intercepted on Tuesday, February 8, were brought into the country in two containers marked HLBU 2239792 with 1,125 cartons of the drug and HLBU 1067338 with 1,751 cartons, with a market value of N2, 012, 500, 000 (two billion, twelve million and five hundred

dogs were brought in to identify the illegal substance," Babafemi explained.

Reacting to the latest seizure, Chairman/Chief Executive of NDLEA, Brig. Gen. Mohamed Buba Marwa (ret'd) said the agency remains poised to deal decisive blows to drug cartels this year by ensuring that no gram of illicit drug is allowed to come

into or pass through Nigeria to other countries.

While commending the officers and men of the Apapa Port Special Area Command of the agency for their vigilance, he expressed gratitude to foreign partners for sharing timely intelligence and other port stakeholders for their cooperation.

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