## Robbers raid Benue banks, kill police officer, councillor, 5 others

FROM **SCHOLASTICA HIR**, MAKURDI

ARMED robbers, on Friday, attacked and robbed several banks in Otukpo town, Otukpo Local Government Area of Benue State.

The robbers were also said to have killed seven persons including police officers and a councillor who was transacting business in one of the affected banks.

According to a witness, the robbers

who shot indiscriminately, first attacked the Otukpo Police Station and disarmed all the policemen before carrying out the robbery.

The source said the incident caused huge pandemonium in Otukpo town as residents, particularly traders, were seen running helter-skelter for their dear lives. The witness said the robbers used two vehicles and one other smaller car to carry out the robbery which lasted about one hour.

Also speaking, another witness who

didn't want to be named told newsmen that the seven people who were killed included three policemen, one vigilante and three others. When contacted, the Police Public Relations Officer, (PPRO), Benue state command, SP Catherine Anene, confirmed the incident but said she was yet to get details.

Anene who asked to be given some time to make inquiries said: "I have not been able to speak with the DPO or any of the officers there but I know there was an incident."