

5 Policemen, 4 Bandits Killed in Robbery Attacks

Five policemen and four armed robbers were killed in separate armed robbery incidents that took place in Obingwa and Osisioma Local Government areas of Abia State between Monday and Tuesday.

THISDAY learnt that the five policemen were killed by the armed robbers who went on shooting spree along the Aba-Azumini road in Obingwa hitting the unfortunate police officers at a road block.

But the following day, it was the turn of the armed robbers to be at the receiving end when a combined team of the army, navy and police confronted the bandits that attacked three commercial banks simultaneously in Osisioma near the NNPC depot.

In the encounter, four armed robbers succumbed to the superior fire power of the combined

From Emmanuel Ugwu

in Umuahia

team of the security agencies while three were arrested.

Abia State Commissioner of Police Jonathan Johnson confirmed both incidents to newsmen and disclosed that large sums of money running into millions of naira were recovered in one of the vehicles used in the robbery operation.

According to eyewitnesses, the gun battle lasted for several hours and it was not until about 3pm that the robbers were subdued. He said while the encounter lasted, vehicular traffic along the Aba-Port Harcourt expressway came to a halt at the Osisioma axis as commercial and private vehicles were parked on both lanes of the highway.