

# Robbers kill DPO's orderly enroute bank raid

By Austin Ogwuda

**A** SABA—A GANG of suspected armed robbers yesterday killed a Police Corporal attached to the Divisional Police Officer (DPO) Agbarho, in Delta state as Orderly and took away his gun while on their way for bank robbery that was later foiled. But three members of the gang involved were killed a few hours later at Okpanam.

*Vanguard* gathered that the Agbarho DPO was one of the 36 DPOs summoned to attend the Political Stakeholders' meeting in Asaba yesterday by the State Police Commissioner, Mr. Udom Ekpoudom.

It was while on his way from Agbarho to Asaba, that his official car had a flat tyre between Ossissa and Ogwashi-Uku and sensing that the meeting had taken off, he left his Orderly and the driver to fix the tyre and joined the next available vehicle to Asaba to join his colleagues.

But as cold hand of death would have it, while tyre of the vehicle was being changed, the five-man armed gang which, according to



*Mr. Sunday Ehindero, Inspector General of Police*

intelligent reports, were heading for a bank robbery at Ogwashi-Uku sighted the Orderly in police uniform.

The robbers were said to have reversed their vehicle and killed the Orderly instantly before taking away his gun. The driver however escaped into the bush unhurt.

State Police Commissioner,

Mr. Udom Ekpoudom confirmed the killing of the DPO's Orderly but denied knowledge of any planned bank robbery.

News of the killed Orderly jolted senior police men at the meeting. The CP later met with the officers shortly after the meeting at a close door meeting geared towards

tracking down the fleeing robbers that killed the Orderly.

Meanwhile, fresh facts have emerged to the effect that the armed robbery gang that stormed Asaba on Saturday were heading for a bank robbery.

State Police Commissioner, Mr. Ekpoudom disclosed this during the Political Stakeholders' meeting held in Asaba yesterday.

While re-assuring politicians that his command were very much alert to check any outbreak of violence during elections, he maintained that since he assumed duties as the Delta state police commissioner over one and half years ago that there had not been any successful bank robbery due to strategies put in place.

Said he, "do you know that on Saturday those bad boys came to town to rob a popular bank in Asaba here.

They first went to one filling station at Okpanam and when they came here they met their Waterloo, you are all living witnesses", he stated.