

Gunmen kill two in Lagos hotel

By Emma Nnadozie

IKEJA—TWO persons were weekend killed by six unidentified gunmen who invaded an hotel in Ikeja area of Lagos State. One other female guest in the hotel was kidnapped and taken to an unknown destination by the hoodlums who arrived around 11:53 p.m. on Friday.

Reports said six armed men arrived the popular eatery/lodging guest house in a white Peugeot Saloon car and held its customers who were over twenty hostage for several hours. They were said to have ransacked everywhere in the hotel in search of money and other valuables before proceeding to the lodging section where they accosted the reception identified as Seun.

Sources said they persistently asked the receptionist to surrender all he had but when he could not give them anything, they shot him dead instantly. The hoodlums also shot a female guest identified as Ishola as she was trying to escape from the scene. She died later as she was being rushed to hospital.

Another female guest who was hiding under a table was forcefully pulled out and taken along with them after they finished their mission. The identity of the kidnapped guest and her whereabouts was yet to be known as at

press time. *Vanguard* gathered that anti-robbery policemen from Wemabod Police station arrived the scene few hours after the incident but the bodies of the victims were removed Saturday afternoon to the mortuary for autopsy.

A reliable Police source said full investigations would be conducted on the matter in order to determine whether it was purely a robbery case or assassins on the prowl. According to the source who pleaded anonymity, "we will take this ugly incident very serious because we are suspecting fowl play. We learnt that just close to the end of last year, the owner of the hotel was involved in a fatal motor accident with his entire family as they were returning to Lagos from Warri. He died on the spot but the wife sustained serious injuries. Though, the children and the driver survived, all efforts by friends and associates to save the life of the wife failed as she gave up the ghost few weeks ago. Now, armed men have also invaded the place and killed innocent guests".

Lagos State Police image maker, Superintendent of Police Bode Ojajuni, who confirmed the incident simply said that the State Criminal Investigations Department (SCID), Panti, Yaba, has started investigations into the incident.

Women protest alleged neglect in Rivers

PORT HARCOURT—A strange form of protest was carried out at the main-gate of the Rivers State College of Education, Rumuolumeni, yesterday, when a group of women, armed with cooking utensils, barricaded the entrance of the school and started cooking yam porridge and fresh fish pepper soup.

While the Rivers' people delicacy was on fire and boiling, the women posted several placards at the gates, walls and surrounding structures, protesting alleged non-employment, award of contracts, admission of their children and jumbo yearly cash package to them.

Vanguard observed at the venue, that the angry women scattered heaps of firewood, fresh palm fronds, while peeled tubers of yam, scales

of fish and giant cooking pots, littered the area. Some of the placards read, "we need jobs", "give us our rights", "we need contracts", "our children need admission", among others.

There was, however, a twist to the protest, when some elders of the Minikpiti, Rumuolumeni Community, (where the women came from), arrived the protest arena and kicked one of the pots down from the "native stove", apparently in disagreement with the action of the women.

But the defiant women, who arrived the gate at 5.45 a.m., quickly rearranged the stones, peeled fresh tubers of yam and continued with their cooking, which they finally prepared and ready to be served, but to no one in particular.

4-year-old girl murdered

ILORIN—A four-year-old girl, Aisata Issa, was at the weekend murdered in Ilorin by unknown assailants.

Her headless body was later recovered at a refuse dump in Isale-Bani area of Ilorin.

The News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) reports that the late Issa was last seen on Saturday at a wedding ceremony at Adara, which she attended with her mother, Mrs. Iyabo

Issa.

The victim was said to have been lured by the assailants and was declared missing.

A search party later succeeded in recovering her headless body on Sunday at a refuse site near Ala compound, at Isale-Guniyan, near a police station. The police have deposited the corpse in a mortuary and commenced investigation into the case.