

# Robbers kill policeman, one other in Lagos

By Evelyn Usman and Femi Adisa

**L**AGOS—TWO persons, one of them a police corporal were weekend killed by rampaging robbers along Ipaja road, Agege, while scores of others were injured.

The Police corporal identified as Adejo Adebayo, attached to the monitory unit of Elere division, was in the company of his six other colleagues, performing a stop and search routine job, when the robbers who were fleeing a robbery scene unexpectedly opened fire on them.

Sources at Elere division told *Vanguard* that the police team led by a sergeant, arrived a hot spot at Olufunmilayo bus-stop about 7.30 pm in a white Mitsubishi commercial bus with registration number XA 478 GBA, on Saturday.

While on the job, report said the late corporal stopped a motorcyclist on which was a man with a 'Ghana must go' bag, to ascertain the contents in the bag. But unknowing to him, a six man robbery gang which was fleeing a robbery ahead was closely following behind apparently thinking that the policemen had got wind of their whereabouts, four members of the gang reportedly came out and fired sporadically in the direction

of the policemen, killing corporal Adebayo on the spot and collected his AK 47 rifle.

One of the stray bullet was said to have hit a shop owner who was trying to escape for dear life while several other people were injured in the stampede caused by the shooting.

The bandits reportedly fled

the scene before the arrival of a back-up from Elere division, leaving in their trail the death of two persons.

Policemen at the Elere division still wore a mournful look when *Vanguard* visited yesterday. They were seen discussing the tragedy that befell their colleague on Saturday night. While some vowed to get their pound of flesh, others however expressed fear and uncertainty over a job they considered very tasking.

## Lagos tribunal fixes May 23 for pre-hearing of petition

**L**AGOS —THE Lagos State Elections Petition Tribunal has fixed May 23 for a pre-hearing session in a petition filed by Mr Jimi Agbaje, the DPA governorship candidate in the April polls.

Agbaje had on May 9 filed a petition against INEC and the Governor-elect of Lagos State, Mr Babatunde Fashola, of the Action Congress, AC.

A statement yesterday in Lagos said all parties to the case were expected to be at the Tribunal by 9.00 a.m.

"If at the set date and time, any of the parties involved fails to turn up, then the tribunal shall carry out its functions as it deems fit," it said.

The statement said that the purpose of the pre-hearing session was to dispose of all matters which could be handled through interlocutory applications.

"It could give direction as to the future course of the petition. "It will also offer the most suitable approach to secure its just and expeditious disposal in view of the urgency of the petition," the statement said.

It said that the pre-hearing session would also give direction on the order of witnesses to be called and the documents to be tendered by each of the party.

"We can also fix clear dates for hearing of the petition," it added.