

One killed, others injured as robbers raid Bureau-de-change in Lagos

By Evelyn Usman

Lagos—A GANG of robbers yesterday

stormed a Bureau-de-change at Akerele area of Surulere, Lagos, leaving in their trail the death of one person and several others injured. The operation which brought commercial activity in the ever-busy area to a standstill for several hours, gripped residents and traders with repudation.

Eye witness said the bandits numbering seven, stormed the bureau-de-change in an unmarked Hiace bus driven by a lady at about 11.30am. Armed with four briefcases in which they concealed their arms, four of them

reportedly made for one of the currency dealer shops who was identified as Mallam Ahmidu. While in the shop, one of them reportedly opened his briefcase and fired into the air apparently to announce their presence. Every one was asked to lie down while two of them were said to have made for a bag containing different currency denominations, earlier brought by a customer.

They reportedly carted away an unspecified amount which some of the dealers claimed ran into millions of naira. But on their way out, a group of persons suspected to be members of the out-

lawed Odua Peoples Congress who were alerted, chased the robbers who fired sporadically as they fled.

In the process, a bullet from the robbers reportedly hit one of the OPC members, killing him on the spot. Another unidentified man said to have also been hit by a stray bullet, was reportedly rushed to a nearby hospital.

However, before the arrival of policemen from different divisions under the area command, the robbers had fled the scene. Contacted, the Police Public Relations officer, Mr Olu-bode Ojajumi who confirmed the incident, said investigation had begun.