

Headlines**Cover Stories****National****Niger-Delta****East****South West****North****Politics****Business****Sports****Education****Health****Environment****Entertainment****Fashion****Technology****The Arts****Law****Labour****Tourism****Viewpoints****NATIONAL****Robbers kill policemen on bank guard in Asaba**

By Austin Ogwuda

Posted to the Web: Tuesday, September 11, 2007

ASABA—A GANG of armed robbery gang stormed Asaba yesterday killing three policemen on bank guard. They also dispossessed them of their rifles. Also shot was a bank driver now hospitalised.

Two of the policemen died on the spot while the third died in the hospital where he was undergoing treatment.

The incident, which occurred at about 10am, threw the city into pandemonium as residents ran helter skelter following the sporadic shooting.

Yesterday's incident was one in the series of onslaughts recently suffered by residents in the hands of bandits in recent times. For the past three months there had been series of robberies in the city, some of which occurred near banks where robbers lay ambush for bank customers as soon as they emerged after cashing money.

Only on Thursday last week, Governor Emmanuel Uduaghan inaugurated a joint security committee comprising the police, military and the state security service (SSS) saying that "in the last one month there have been some security situations especially the cases of armed robbery and others that are not acceptable in this our state".

Vanguard gathered that the four-man robbery gang operating on motorcycles allegedly trailed a 504 station wagon car belonging to a new generation bank to Ogbe-Osowa area of the town and caught up with the car when it slowed down on approaching a speed breaker.

Eyewitness said that the robbers immediately opened fire on the driver, which forced the vehicle to lose control and fell into a gutter.

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Asaba. On a visit to the place yesterday shortly after the incident, some police officers attached to the state were seen wailing discussing the incident in groups.