

Suspected armed robber killed in Emekuku

By Chidi Nkwopara

OWERRI—ONE suspected dare-devil armed robber was Thursday evening killed while three policemen sustained varying degrees of injury, during a gun duel between the anti-robbery squad of Imo State Police Command and the hoodlums at Emekuku, Owerri North local government area of the state.

Confirming the incident to *Saturday Vanguard*, the Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Mr. Linus Nwaiwu, an assistant superintendent of police (ASP), said that the three policemen who were immediately rushed to the Federal Medical Centre, Owerri, are responding to treatment.

"The armed robbers were operating in a dark blue Toyota Corolla car belonging to Oceanic Bank Plc. The police patrol team was taken unawares by the prowling robbers, especially as our men did not expect that robbers instead of bank officials were in the vehicle at the time", the PPRO said.

He further disclosed that when the Command was informed that the robbers were operating along the Owerri-Aba federal highway, an anti robbery team was quickly despatched to the area, adding that when the hoodlums sensed danger, they made a detour via the Sam Mbakwe International Cargo Airport road to Enyigugu, Mbaise.

"On further information that the hoodlums were sighted along the Owerri-Umuahia road,

another team was sent to the area. In the process, the robbers were eventually helmed in at Emekuku and a gun duel ensued", Nwaiwu said.

Continuing, the PPRO said the police recovered 44 rounds of AK 47 ammunition, 87 rounds of ammunition, one AK 47 magazine loaded with 21 rounds of live ammunition, N23,000 and a brown envelope containing Oceanic Bank Plc documents.

Kogi Annulment: CNPP urges sanction on INEC

LAGOS — THE Conference of Nigerian Political Parties (CNPP) has called on the Federal Government to devise ways of sanctioning INEC officials in areas where the April elections have been annulled.

The Kogi State Electoral Tribunal had on Wednesday voided the governorship election in the state and ordered a by-election.

The national chairman of the CNPP, Dr. Olapade Agoro, told the News Agency of Nigeria, (NAN) yesterday in Lagos that "although, this is not in the constitution, there is need for the government to penalise the concerned commission's staff."

"Most of the problems of the last elections were caused by INEC and somebody has to pay as a deterrent to others in future elections," he said.