

Three suspected robbers die in shoot-out

By Peter Duru

MAKURDI—THREE suspected robbers who specialize in robbing luxury buses along the Onitsha-Makurdi Road weekend met their Waterloo following a shoot-out with men of the Benue state Police command in Otukpo area of the state after they had allegedly robbed and raped occupants of a luxury bus that took off from Onitsha en route Kano.

According to sources, the said luxury bus with registration number SJ 485 BKJ had left Onitsha Park very early on the fateful day but midway into the journey, at Obolo in Enugu state the driver of the vehicle picked up other passengers among whom were the armed robbers who had disguised as genuine passengers.

On getting to Ankpa junction in Kogi state the robbers numbering four pulled out their guns and rerouted the vehicle into the bush at gun point where all the occupants were robbed of their belongings while all passengers were ordered out except the driver and four women who were taken away into a nearby bush and raped.

After their escapade the said robbers directed the driver to take them through a feeder road en route Otukpo in Benue state but unknown to them information had already got to the police command in the town and men were placed on red alert awaiting their arrival.

On sighting the police men on the road at Otukpo, they opened fire and in the process three of the suspects were gunned down while one escaped with bullet injuries.