

Three robbery suspects gunned down in shoot-out with policemen

By Evelyn Usman

LAGOS—THREE robbery suspects were, weekend, gunned down during separate shoot-outs with policemen in Lagos, at the end of which two vehicles, earlier snatched from staffers of two media houses, were recovered.

This is just as an attempt by a 10-man robbery gang to invade a bank in Oke-Arin area of Lagos was foiled by the Police.

One of the vehicles, a Toyota Yaris with plate number CP 31 AKM, was reportedly snatched at gun point from an administrative staff of The Compass, Sunday night. The victim, identified as Moses Ebony, was about driving into his residence at Akesan Estate, when the gunmen accosted him, dispossessed him of cash and GSM handset before zooming off in the Toyota Yaris. Time was 9pm.

Vanguard gathered that Anti-Robbery policemen from the command trailed the vehicle to a hotel in Ejigbo, where the robbers lodged in until 5am yesterday. But as they were about entering into the stolen vehicle, the police aimed at the tyres, following which a gun duel ensued, at the end of which a member of the gang was gunned down while the rest reportedly managed to escape.

In a similar development, a KIA Cerato vehicle was snatched same time on Saturday at gun point from a staff of Business Day at WEMCO Road, Ogba. Luck, however, ran against the bandits whose intention it was to use the vehicle with plate number DY 687 KRD for a robbery operation that night, as they were accosted by policemen who reportedly chased them from Maryland to Agege. An ensuing gun duel resulted in the death of two members of the gang while others escaped, abandoning the stolen vehicle.

...Three others set ablaze

By Okey Ndiribe

LAGOS—NEW Road Bus Stop along Baale Street, Ajegunle, in Olodi-Apapa Local Government Area of Lagos State, was thrown into pandemonium yesterday morning after three suspected armed robbers were lynched by an angry mob and set ablaze.

It was gathered that a gang of five suspected robbers had, in the early hours of the day, raided several houses located along the street, including a mosque and a three storey building under construction close to the junction with Achakpo Street.

A resident of the street, who spoke to *Vanguard*, said that the robbers, who were armed with guns and ammunition, had attempted to remove some air conditioners from the three storey building before they were overpowered by members of the Odua Peoples Congress (OPC) in the area.

He further said that after the

hoodlums were overpowered, three of them were instantly lynched and set ablaze. However, two of them managed to escape from the mob which had gathered that early morning.

It was gathered that the robbers had earlier raided a mosque within the vicinity where they dispossessed early morning worshippers of their mobile phone handsets and other valuables.

The corpses of the robbery suspects which, were piled on top of each other before being set ablaze, attracted a large crowd of on-lookers yesterday morning.

The corpses had been on fire for several hours and were already burnt beyond recognition when *Vanguard* arrived at the scene. A man who was said to be in-charge of the on-going construction work at the three storey building, confirmed that the robbers had attempted removing some air conditioners from the building before some residents of the street pounced on them.