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Posted to the web 22 September 2008

VANGUARD[Email](#) This Page[Print](#) This Page[Comment](#) on this article**Festus Ahon**

Armed robbers yesterday went on the rampage on the Ugbelli/Asaba road in Delta State killing one soldier at a petrol station, at Ozoro Isoko North Local Government Area of the State.

Vanguard gathered that the armed robbers who struck as early as 6:30 a.m started the robbery operation between Ellu and Emevor robbing traders traveling to Onitsha, Asaba and other parts of their valuables.

According to an eyewitness account, the robbers who stopped over at the AP Petrol station to refill their tank, were engaged in a gun battle by two soldiers attached to an expatriate traveling in a Hilux pickup.

The eyewitness, who pleaded anonymity, said one of the soldiers had to run for his dear life when he saw his colleague in his own pool of blood struggling for breath, leaving behind the expatriate.

Another eyewitness, who was traveling with a Police Officer in private car to Asaba, said the Police Officer had to immediately put a distress call across to one ASP Graham Imade, coordinator of the state patrol team, adding that the robbers were given a hot chase from Emevor to Isiokolo/Kokori where the armed bandits reportedly abandoned their vehicle and escaped with bullet wounds.

Confirming the report, a senior police officer in the state, said the operational vehicle of the armed robbers was recovered at Kokori ridden with bullets and stains of human blood.

The Police Office, who said the vehicle has been taken to the Joint Patrol Team office in Warri, stated that no arrest has been made.

Our correspondent reports that armed bandits have been laying siege on the Ughelli/Asaba for the past six months almost on daily basis.

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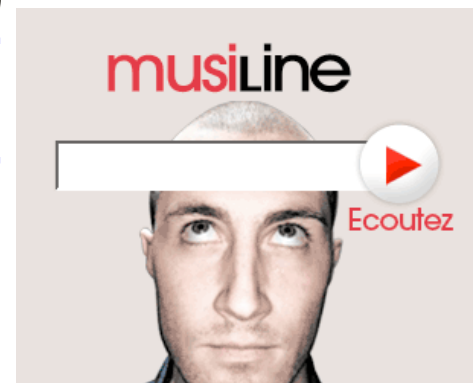
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