

Robbers kill ten in Ilorin

ILORIN—No fewer than ten people lost their lives yesterday when armed bandits laid siege on the ever busy Ilorin-Ajasepo road disrupting traffic for several hours. The victims, hanging on the top of the trailer died after their trailer summersaulted when it suddenly ran into the robbers' barricade.

Eyewitness accounts claimed that the robbers had barricaded a section of the road for the operation forcing road users to stop at the point and dispossessing them of valuables.

The bandits had barricaded the road with logs of wood, a usual practice along the route which of recent has become very busy with traffic due to the diversion of vehicular movements from the Ilorin-Ogbomoso and Ogbomoso-Ife-Odan routes as a result of the bridges that had collapsed on the two routes. One of the victims, Mr. Toyin Odunowo, a driver with the Western Publishing Company, publishers of *Nigerian Compass*, told *Vanguard* that he ran into the bandits, numbering about 10 around 3:00 a.m.

while on delivery duty.

While Odunowo escaped unhurt, the Hilux Van he was driving had some 29 bullet holes on the front fender as the robbers reportedly shot at the vehicle which had begun to reverse from the scene. An apparently rattled Odunowo said two of the robbers wore bullet proof jackets, jean on canvass shoes and ordered him to stop as he made his escape.

According to him, "they were holding what looked like AK47 rifles, two of them sprayed the vehicle as I reversed and shouted at me to stop, thereafter I went to lodge a report at the Ajasepo police station, about 10 minutes drive from the scene before I was directed to the Omupo police station".

The *Compass* driver said he saw four vehicles at the scene of the incident; two trucks and two smaller cars, one of them a red Mazda. He also claimed to have later seen two people on the ground, after normalcy had returned and vehicles began to move, while there was blood stain at scene. Contacted, spokesman for the Kwara State Police Command, Mr. Tunde Mohammed, said his office was yet to be briefed on any robbery operation along the axis for the day.

Promasidor to showcase products at trade fair

PPROMASIDOR Nigeria Limited, makers of Cowbell milk and other consumables, has said Lagos International Trade Fair, starting today is an opportunity for the company to further expose its acclaimed products to consumers and participants at the fair.

A statement by company's Corporate Affairs Manager, Mr. Isiaka Lawal, noted that the fair would also serve as a platform to re-launch new

an average of one thousand persons per day all through the fair."

"Seen as a regular annual feast, Promasidor Nigeria will not be there to sell at a reduced prize and give free samples only but to also entertain and make happy all its costumers and all visitors to its stand during the fair. Promasidor will allow its top management to have an interactive session with the press during the fair.