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4:12 PM, Tuesday, March 17th, 2009

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Police battle robbers on Asaba-Benin road, kill one

Written by Austin Ogwuda
Tuesday, 17 March 2009

ASABA—Motorists, including a newspaper van conveying newspapers to Asaba, were attacked by armed robbers between Okpanam and Issele-Azagba on Asaba-Benin highway yesterday morning.

Police, however, responded promptly and in the gun duel that ensued, killed one of the rampaging robbers.

The windscreen of a bus belonging to a national daily was shattered by bullets.

Confirming the incident, the state police command's spokesman, Mr. Charles Muka, an Assistant Superintendent of Police (ASP), said "every effort is being made to stem the robbery on that axis.

This morning (yesterday), we responded to a distress call and gunned down one of the robbers".

State Police Commissioner, Mr. Jacob Oshiomogho, had recently said that one way to put an end to the incessant robbery attacks within that notorious axis was to set up a police post there.

The commissioner pointed out that his command was already strategizing on how best to tackle the problem, among which is a 24-hour surveillance on the surrounding bushes within that very black spot as well as liaising with local vigilante groups in the area.

Chairman of Ethiopie West local government council, Dr. Wilson Omene's convoy ran into robbery operation within that axis about a month ago.



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