

Robbers kill 3, injure 5 in Lagos

BY EVELYN USMAN

LAGOS — THERE was a bloodbath yesterday at Ojo Road, in the densely populated Ajegunle area of Lagos, as three persons were shot dead by robbers who raided a petrol station.

The bandits numbering eight, according to eyewitness, stormed Jonek Petrol Station by Ligali bus-stop, Ojo Road, at about 12.50 p.m. in four motorcycles.

While four of them remained on the motorcycles, their colleagues reportedly brought out their weapons and ordered everyone to lie flat, threatening to shoot anyone who violates the order.

Three of them, thereafter, made for one of the offices where payment for a just off loaded petroleum product was about to be made. Attempt to forcefully drag the money from the pay officer reportedly met stiff resistance, which led to his being shot in the chest.

Another female attendant said to have been with an unspecified amount that was supposed to be added to the one with the pay officer, was also shot in the head and the money taken.

The bandits were said to have stuff the money in two Ghana-Must-Go bags and left the office. On their way out, they fired indiscriminately in the process of which another attendant was hit by stray bullet in the stomach.

About five other persons said to have also been hit by stray bullets were rushed to two hospitals along Ojo Road, where unfortunately, they were rejected by nurses who insisted they brought police report.

The reverberating gun shots alerted policemen at Layeni Division which was just two bus-stops away from the scene. But before their arrival, the bandits had escaped through a canal in Charles Avenue.

...as 3 die in auto crash

BY EVELYN USMAN

LAGOS — THREE persons lost their lives, weekend, in a multiple auto crash that occurred at Odo Ogun area of Ikorodu, an outskirts of Lagos. Among four other victims, whose lives were said to be hanging in the balance as doctors were still battling at press time to revive them in an undisclosed hospital, was a couple.

The multiple auto crash, said to have occurred at about 2 p.m. involved two trucks and a Previa Space bus.

Eye-witnesses said tragedy struck after one of the trucks belonging to Dangote company with number plate XA 487 STK suddenly veered off its lane following an apparent break failure. In the driver's bid to bring the truck to a halt, it reportedly ran over the Previa car with number plate FD 424 LNO occupied by eight passengers and another truck with number plate XA 535 BON.

Passengers in the Previa bus suffered the worst casualty as three persons, comprising the driver, an occupant in front and another directly behind the driver, all died on the spot. A couple and two other victims who were in coma were reportedly rushed to the hospital.

Only one person reportedly came out of the compressed car alive. The survivor who identified himself simply as Sadiq was quoted to have explained that they were returning from a house warming ceremony when the unexpected occurred.

Driver of the trucks escaped unhurt as an angry mob attempted to burn down the trucks but for the intervention of some policemen.

The incident caused a hitch in traffic flow. It, however, took the combined efforts of some traffic policemen and officials of the Lagos State Traffic Management Authority (LASTMA) to control the situation.