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VANGUARD

Nigeria: Two Suspected Robbers Shot Dead in Ughelli

Festus Ahon

15 May 2009

TWO armed robbers were last Wednesday shot dead in Ughelli, Ughelli North Local Government Area of Delta State for their alleged involvement in a rice shop raid .

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This came after a bank robbery attempt on a new generation bank in Ughelli twenty-four hours earlier which was foiled by the police and local vigilante in the area.

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The death toll in the bank robbery has risen to eight, following a search party instituted by the police to fish out members of the robbery gang that lost their bearing in a nearby community.

According to Divisional Police Officer, Mr. Chris Sorgbara, about five of the robbers were caught in the bush with bullet wounds and died in the process.

The two armed robbers, according to a reliable source, were rounded up by the police, the Ughelli and Ogor local vigilante groups at Ughelli main market while attempting to escape after robbing the rice shop at about 5: 00pm and were shot dead during an exchange of fire with the security operatives.

The source told the Vanguard that the armed robbers came pretending to be customers and brought out guns after loading the Volkswagen Jetter they came in with some bags of rice, threatening to shoot if the woman dared ask for payment.

Our source, who pleaded anonymity, said luck ran out on the bandits when a police and vigilante patrol team arrived the scene when the robbers were trying to escape.

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In the process, two of the robbers were shot dead on the spot, while the driver escaped with the vehicle loaded with the stolen rice.

Confirming the incident, the Divisional Police Officer, Ughelli Police 'A' Division, Mr. Chris Sorgbara, said a local pistol and the rice were recovered from the armed robbers.

According to him, the police were not going to relent in their effort to track down all the hoodlums that attacked the bank and reiterated the commitment of the police to wipe out criminals from the area.

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