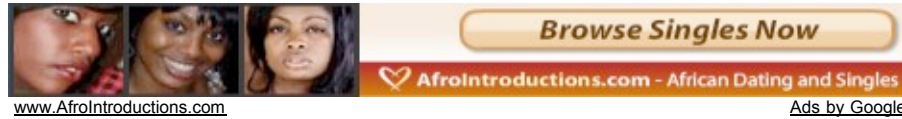


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Gabriel Engholase

8 December 2010

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Benin — A GANG of armed robbers yesterday morning in Auchi, Estako West Local Government Area of Edo State, raided a new generation bank and killed a police inspector, even as two other persons were reportedly said to have sustained injuries during the operation, which lasted over an hour.

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Vanguard also gathered that another policeman, who was said to have been shot by the fleeing armed robbers at a check point along the Auchi-Agbede road, is in a critical condition. Eyewitness told Vanguard that the robbers, numbering over 20, on arrival at the bank, shot sporadically to scare people.

The police inspector, it was further learnt, on sighting the robbers, decided to crawl with a view to confronting them, but unknown to him, the armed hoodlums had sighted him and shot him point blank, killing him instantly. The robbers reportedly made away with unspecified amount of money.

In another development, a gang of armed robbers also yesterday waylaid and robbed a luxury bus on its way from Abuja between Egono and Agbede on Auchi-Benin road. Details of the robbery incident was, however, sketchy at press time. Edo State Police Command spokesman, Mr. Peter Ogboi, when contacted, confirmed the bank robbery at Auchi and the death of the police inspector.

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