

Bank robbers kill 8 policemen

LUKKEY ABAWURU

ARMED robbers yesterday in Lagos went on shooting spree, killing eight policemen who attempted to foil a night robbery attack on a bank in Ikotun, Alimosho council area of the state.

Reacting however, the state police command said only two

officers were killed while three others were lying critically ill at an undisclosed hospital in the area.

The police also alleged that three of the suspected robbers were killed during the shoot-out between the security operatives and the bandits who stormed the bank about 2.00am.

Daily Champion however

gathered that one of the deceased policemen, a constable (names withheld) was billed to have his traditional marriage this December.

Informed sources however said the eight officers, an Assistant Superintendent of

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Bank robbers

Police (ASP) an Inspector, two sergeants, three Corporals and a Constable were killed in their Patrol Van, few metres from the bank.

Our source said the policemen who had not been properly identified at press time yesterday were attached to Ikotun Police station, adding that they were responding to a distress call when they met their Waterloo.

He said there was a distress call that robbers were operating at the bank and in a quick response, the Police raced to the scene only to fall prey to the bandits who were armed with sophisticated machine guns.

Daily Champion learnt that the robbers got wind of the police intervention and quickly

deployed their best marksmen who eliminated the entire team of the anti-robbery squad.

The source noted that the robbers exchanged communication with the policemen, directing them the way to reach the place.

He said immediately the policemen entered their trap, the robbers in a staccato shoot-out killed all of them without the police returning any shot.

The source who pleaded anonymity said after killing the policemen, the robbers went ahead, skilfully and successfully robbed the bank.

According to him, the robbers numbering over 30 stormed the place about 2.00am

and cordoned all entry and exit points to prevent people from entering or leaving the premises.

Reacting to the incident, a senior Police officer at the command, said police also killed three of the trigger-happy gunmen in the encounter.

He said three policemen who were wounded are receiving treatment at the intensive care unit of the undisclosed hospital.

When *Daily Champion* visited the command, the Commissioner of Police Mr Emmanuel Adebayo was said to be having emergency meeting with Senior Police officers over the issue.