

2 killed as robbers storm 3 banks in Lagos

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NO fewer than two persons were feared dead and several others wounded yesterday when suspected armed robbers stormed three separate banks at **Okota, Ago Palace and Mushin** areas of Lagos.

Although, it was not certain whether the robbers carted away money, but a source said they entered into the banking hall of one of the banks.

Also, the identities of those killed could not be ascertained, however *Daily Champion* gathered that they were two male customers who had gone to transact business in the bank.

A witness said the suspects stormed the banks at Okota and Ago Palace way in two buses and cordoned off all the entry and exit points.

The witness who pleaded

anonymity said they arrived about 10am and positioned themselves at vantage places before shooting sporadically into the air.

He said the security guards at one of the banks (a first generation bank) fled their duty posts, paving way for the successful entry of the bandits.

The deceased, he added, were hit by stray bullets fired by the criminals.

The incident, it was gathered resulted in traffic congestion at the area as drivers abandoned their vehicles on the road and scampered for safety.

The witness added that some of the wounded victims were also customers of the bank, noting that most of them went to nearby hospital for medical attention.

At Mushin, the attack on a bank at challenge bus stop failed as policemen confronted

them causing the robbers to abandon the scene immediately.

Confirming the incident, the state commissioner of police, Mohammed Abubakar said the robbers efforts failed as his men got information on their intention on time.

"We foiled their plan, I don't have the details of their activities but I am sure they would never succeed in any operation in the state."

Also confirming the incident, spokesman of one of the banks said no money was taken from their bank.

The banks he said was security conscious as it mounted several sophisticated gadgets that would make the bank impenetrable to criminals.

It would be recalled that there have been several robbery incidents at Okota and other area in the last few days.