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**Countryman**
**Robbers kill 2 cops in Ekiti**  
*•1in Lagos church*

UFOMBA UZUEGBU with Agency report

TRAGEDY struck in Ekiti State last Thursday where suspected armed robbers killed two policemen in Igede-Ekiti.

The state Police Command said the remains of the policemen had been deposited at the mortuary.

In Lagos State, dare-devil robbers also stormed St. Mary's Catholic Church, Ire-Akari, Isolo, Lagos in the early hours of Sunday where they killed a security guard before carting away with undisclosed sum of money and other valuables.

The News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) learnt the deceased were Corporal Alaba Omotayo and Constable Emmanuel Owoseni, attached to the Igede Divisional Police Station.

Also killed in the attack was an old woman who was said to have left Ilawe-Ekiti to transact business at the Igede-Ekiti main market on the faithful day.

The policemen, who were in a Police pick-up van, were said to have ran into the robbers who were targeting a Bullion Van that was expected to convey money from the Akure branch of an old generation bank.

The Command spokesperson, ASP Mike Adedipe disclosed this yesterday in an interview with NAN in Ado-Ekiti .

"It was true that two Policemen from the Command were killed last Thursday by armed robbers at Igede-Ekiti during a shootout" he said.

Adedipe said the Police have commenced investigations into the incident, but no arrest had been made.

A source told Daily Champion that the robbers numbering about five stormed the church by 1.30 a.m and scaled the walls to gain entrance to the church.

Once in inside, the source said, the robbers tied the three security guards on duty to a stake before killing one of them, Mr. Francis Ogada for reasons which were not clear at press time. The source confirmed however, that the parish priest, Rev. Fr. Boniface Ekowu (OSJ) was not hurt.

"The robbers confronted Fr. Boniface Ekowu. They did not harm him but demanded for money. He gave them some money but the (robbers) complained that it was not enough. Thereafter they forced their way to the first and second floor of the parish house and carted away money and other valuables.

When Daily Champion visited the parish house to get Rev Fr. Ekowu's reaction, he was said to have gone to the police station to report the incidence.



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