

Aftermath of bank robberies: Police kill one, arrest another in Ogun

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The Ogun state police command on Thursday said a member of an armed robbery gang terrorising banks in Ijebu area of the state has been shot dead while another was arrested near a bus allegedly being used to carry out their operations.

The gang has attacked three banks in the last three weeks, killing four people, including a teenage girl at the Union Bank, Ijebu Ode, where the gang struck on Wednesday.

Residents said the bank robbers felt safe in the area and could operate with impunity in Ijebuland that comprises eight local government areas.

When the Daily Trust visited Elewera police headquarters on Thursday, the state police public relations officer (P.R.O.), Femi Awoyale, was reported to be away on assignment, but when a call was put through to his mobile phone, he claimed the command was on top of the situation, discussing that this was evident in the killing of a member of the gang on Wednesday night, assuring that the police will do everything possible to eliminate the daring gang as soon as possible.

Awoyale told Daily Trust: "we are in control. They cannot turn Ogun state a Haven for their criminal activities. In fact, as I am talking to you now, one of them was killed on Wednesday, while we arrested one. Also, a red bus was impounded from them. I am on my way to Ijebu now," he said.

The police image maker also said that contrary to reports "all the operations of the gang were foiled by the police and it was in their desperate bid to escape that they resorted to shooting sporadically in which innocent people were killed," he told Daily Trust.