

Robbers invade another Dantata Quarters, kill security guard

By Abuakar Yakubu

A security guard was in the early hours of Tuesday morning shot dead by armed robbers who invaded Dantata Quarters at Mararaba.

The robbers numbering about 42 also shot a man in the leg and brutalized residents that had no money or handsets to give to them.

The body of the deceased's security man, Rabiul Lawal, was removed by the police few hours after the robbery and deposited at the mortuary of the Federal Medical Centre in Nasarawa State.

The injured person, Silas, who is a staff of Dantata Company, is recuperating at the company's Life Camp clinic in Abuja.

One of the victims said he was awoken by continuous whistling from security guards who first saw the robbers coming at 2am.

"The men in my compound came out and saw a large group of people from afar pointing torch lights and urging one another to ensure that they go round all the area," he said.

He said the robbers called each other Mopol and fired guns as they ransacked compounds in the area. He told our reporter that he and other

tenants removed their families from their homes and went into hiding in a properly fenced compound to escape the robbers.

"The robbers broke into my children's room and ransacked the place," he lamented.

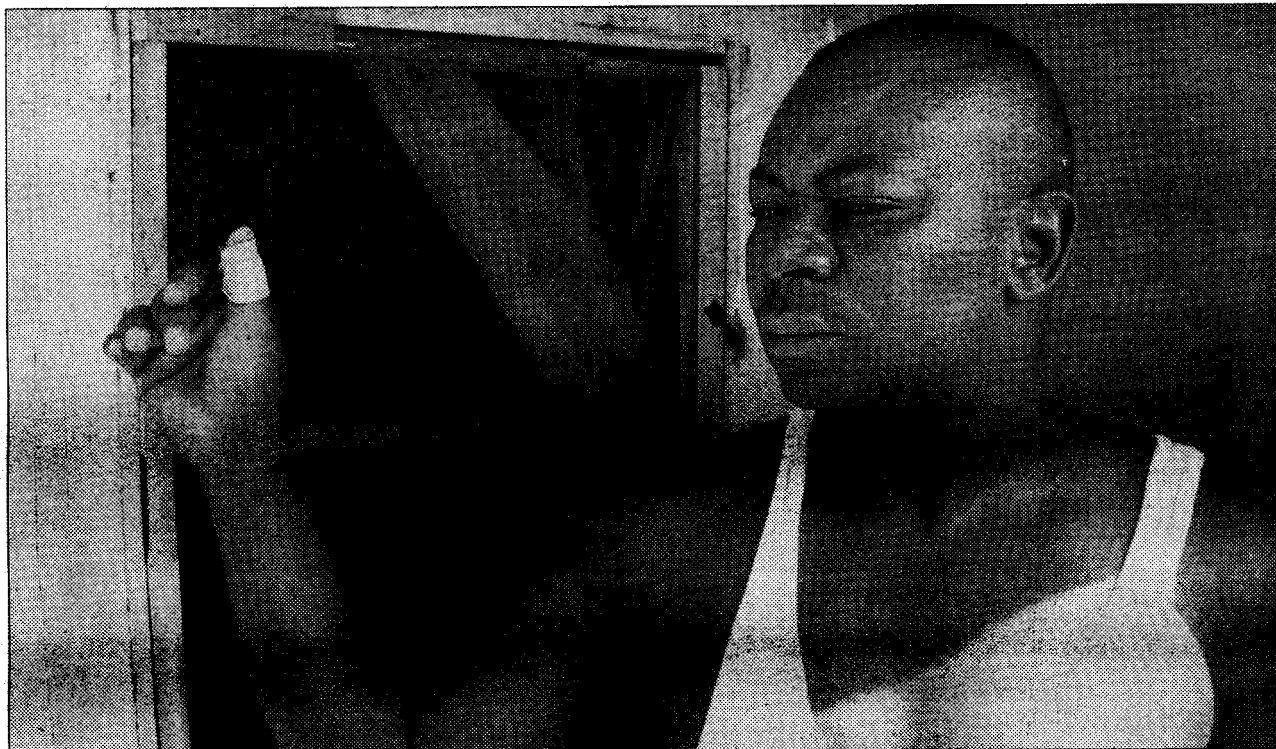
Another victim told *City News* that residents in his compound are still surprised how the robbers gained entry into their compound because their gate was well locked.

"They must have climbed something to jump through the fence and the first set that entered opened the gate for the rest to come inside," he said.

The man said the robbers asked for only money, laptops, handsets and jewellery. "If you do not cooperate, they would beat you mercilessly," he stated.

He lamented further that the robbers broke into all apartments in his compound and warned the tenants not to resist as they were 42 in number.

"One of our neighbours made a call to some policemen in Abuja who radioed a police team on patrol and it traced the location after the



A victim of the robbery

robbery before contacting the police at Mararaba," he disclosed.

City News learnt from residents of the area that the police arrived two hours after the robbers had gone.

"They parked their vehicle far away at City Rock Hotel and trekked down to this area to inspect the scene," one of the residents remarked.

He said a resident with a pick-up van assisted the police in conveying the injured victim to the hospital. The police also took oral statements from some residents before removing the corpse of the security man.

Some residents expressed their disappointment at the slow response of the police to their distress call.

"We are afraid because the government is not providing security and there is no water, light or good road here," a resident lamented.

The residents said that they heard gunshots again Tuesday night and resorted to prayers.

The reporter saw most of the residents repairing their damaged doors and gates yesterday.

At the Mararaba police station, a police man confirmed the incident and

blamed bad roads for the inability of the police to get to the place on time. The policeman disclosed further that the investigation into the incident has commenced.

It would be recalled that a gang of armed robbers, led by a huge man carrying an AK 47 assault rifle, overran Dantata quarters on the Nyanya-Mararaba border at wee hours, two Sundays ago and brutalised residents of over 60 homes in a two-hour operation.