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3 killed as robbers raid Okene banks

Written by Usman A. Bellc, Lokoja Wednesday, 21 December 2011
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Armed robbers attacked three banks in broad daylight

yesterday in Okene, Kogi State, killing 10 people and taking away millions of naira.

Witness said the dead people were hit by stray bullets as the robbers fired sporadic gun shots on getting to the area where the banks are located. The robbed banks were UBA, Intercontinental and GTB banks.

One of those killed was a traveller on the Okene road while the other two were residents of the town.

A witness said about 20 robbers stormed the area at about 3pm yesterday, armed with rifles, riding exotic cars including Toyota JP, Mercedes Benz and End of Discussion Honda Accord.

They fired indiscriminate shots, forcing policemen and residents to go into hiding.

The witness said the robbers used explosives to destroy the security entrance of the banks.

"The robbers raided the banks for over one hour, moving freely from one of the banks to the other with no security men on sight. All shops, banks across the town were closed down even as police stations were also shut due to the robbery operation.

Travelers passing through from the South and the North had to make U-turn to avoid the robbers. They even bombed the armoured tank abandoned by the police at Okene secretariat," he said.

He said about 15 minutes after the robbers left, policemen were still hiding.

Public Relations Officer of the Kogi State Police Command, Ajayi Okasami, said he could not confirm the casualties as there was no contact with their men in Okene due to communication breakdown.

Meanwhile, most of the banks in the state capital Lokoja hurriedly closed for fear of being attacked.

On Monday, armed robbers bombed a bank and police station in Ayetoro-

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ibrahim saleh

2011-12-23 11:32 #40

Gej are u hearing all this robbers storming one bank to another , and you are keeping quite ? God will surely deal you in the here after

[Quote](#)

Umar Maryam

2011-12-22 22:41 #39

The police station is about 500m away from the place of incidence . Was it that there was equally transportation failure ? That is one of the 'Polluted Air' promised us. The next 'Polluted Air' is removal of oil subsidy . I have begin to see that the days of these self-centred leaders are numbered . Arise O compatriots ! Nigerians call to action...

[Quote](#)

Benrock

2011-12-22 14:26 #38

Its too unfortunate that our govt is so insensitive to the plight of the people , I lost a colleague to the incident Mr. Lawson Josiah a senior library assistant with National Library of Nig. How can govt say they are fighting insecurity without fighting unemployment that is the root of the insecurity . May the souls of the departed through the mercy of God rest in peace Amen.

[Quote](#)

BB HALLIRU

2011-12-22 14:06 #37

One of the solutions to the violence rocking this country is to democratize violence . Since the Police and other security agencies have failed to protect us and the guns have found themselves in the hands of those that are more prone to abusing them, then it is only natural to allow the law abiding citizen to own his own Guns, if not for anything but to protect himself .

[Quote](#)

Rajieasy R

2011-12-21 21:35 #36

Shame to PDP. Shame GEJ . Shame to the Nigeria Police . Robbers now walk to the police station freely, get ammunition and rifle of their choice to carry out operation on banks , what a failed nation .

[Quote](#)

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