

Seven die in Lagos robberies

TEARS flow freely in Lagos yesterday after two robbery incidents at an old-generation bank and a shopping plaza left seven people dead.

The robbers reportedly made away with millions of naira in the bank attack, which took place at Agidingbi area of the state about 11a.m.

The state Police Spokesman, Frank Mba, a Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP), who confirmed the incident, said the armed robbers came in an unmarked Toyota Hiace but met stiff resistance from a team of policemen in the area.

But eyewitnesses told *The Guardian* that the armed bandits had successfully robbed the bank before the police came and engaged them in a shootout, which left four pedestrians dead.

The Guardian also learnt that the robbers left the

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bank to attack a shopping plaza on Kudirat Abiola Way, Oregun, killing three persons and injuring others in the process.

Police authorities, however, disputed the casualty figures, saying that nobody died in the attacks as claimed by residents in the area.

Yesterday's attacks came barely a week after a gang of robbers attacked two banks at Orile Iganmu and Apapa area killing five people.

The Orile Iganmu robbery was successful, but the Apapa operation failed, as a team of policemen stormed the robbers' hideout in Ajegunle and shot four of them dead.

Robbers operating in Lagos have formed a habit of lying in wait outside banking premises for customers who had gone to make huge withdrawals.