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Police kill two robbers, arrest others in Ondo

From Niyi Bello and Julius Alabi, Akure

TWO suspected armed robbers met their Waterloo in the hands of the men of the Special Anti-Robbery Squad (SARS) of the Ondo State Police Command as they were gunned down during an exchange of gun-fire in the highbrow Ijapo Estate area of Akure metropolis last Friday.

The two suspected robbers, part of a four-man robbery gang, had invaded the home of a state lawmaker in the early hours of the day and locked the son in a bedroom while subjecting the legislator and his wife to torture in their demand for money and other valuables.

The son was said to have made his way through the window to the Ijapo Police Station where he alerted policemen on duty and the police, according to the Command Spokesman, Adeniran Aremu (ASP), immediately mobilised to the crime scene to curtail the situation.

On sighting the police, the invaders were said to have opened fire. In the shoot-out, two of the robbers were killed while the other two made attempts to escape by scaling the fence of the building. One was arrested in the process.

Aremu disclosed to The Guardian that during investigations which commenced immediately, the arrested suspect was asked to phone the runaway robber pretending to have escaped too and to ask for his whereabouts, which the unsuspecting escaped robber disclosed to his accomplice.

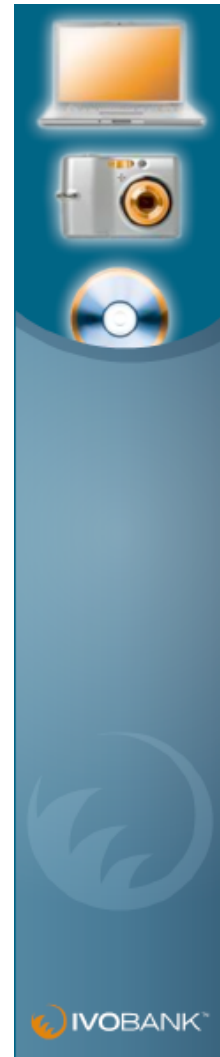
A team of detectives was immediately dispatched to the address where the escaped hoodlum was arrested and various stolen items and dangerous weapons were recovered.

Aremu gave the names of the two dead robbers as Yinka Bello and Wale Afolarin of the same address of No 34, Oba Akran Street, Ikeja, Lagos, while Yemi Babalola, who is from Ogbomoso and who claimed to be a student of one of the colleges of education in Osun State, assisted the police to arrest the fourth one whose identity was yet to be revealed by the police.

Among items recovered from the robbers is one Nissan Altima car with registration number Osun AA 582 FNN, two locally-made pistols, 12 cartridges, four expended cartridges, N15,000, three handsets and bag containing some clothes.

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