

Police Kill Two Robbers, Arrest One In Lagos

By Wisdom Patrick and Femi Ogbonnikan (Lagos)

Police in Lagos have shot two armed robbers to death in separate operations.

○ In the first incident at the weekend, police killed a member of an armed robbery gang, which specialised in attacking financial institutions.

Another was arrested while two others escaped with bullet wounds.

The robbers, numbering four,

invaded First Guaranty Pensions Office on Idowu Martins Street, Victoria Island, on Sunday, but a team of anti-pobbery policemen attached to Victoria Island Division swooped on them following a tip-off.

Sources said on sighting the team, the robbers opened fire on the policemen. The police operatives responded in self-defence.

At the end, one of the robbers was killed while another was arrested. The suspect is identified as Innocent Imeh.

The state Police Public Relations Officer, Olubode Ojajuni, confirmed the report.

○ In the second incident on Monday, a middle-aged man belonging to a gang of armed robbers terrorising residents of Surulere was killed during exchange of fire with the police.

Police source at the State Criminal Investigation Department (SCID) at Panti Street in Yaba said the operation was pre-planned.

"We have been looking for

them since the beginning of this year. But each time we decided to strike, they would get information and disappear. But that day, luck ran out on them."

He added that the man was killed unintentionally.

"Each one of them, we know must have a story to tell us, which could be useful. However, since it has turned out that way, there is nothing we can do. Those boys were a law unto themselves, they operate with impunity."

He said they went to an uncompleted building at Randle, following a tip-off, to raid the robbers' hideout.

"The moment we got there at 8p.m. yesterday (Monday), they opened fire on us. The only grace we had was that as part of our strategy, there was nobody in the vehicle, apart from the driver so their bullets did not hit anybody." The source said they were shot at from different directions, which gave the hoodlums out. The policemen returned fire.