

Robbers Raid Commercial Bus At Ijora, Kill One

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One person was feared dead on Monday when armed robbers numbering seven attacked a Kogi State-bound commercial bus at Ijora and dispossessed its passengers of cash and valuables.

A witness said the robbers posed like prospective passengers at the park and waited for a convenient time to strike. The witness, who identified himself as Emmanuel Oche, was also a victim of the attack. He said the

hoodlums struck at 5.30a.m, when the vehicle was about to drive out of the terminus.

Oche said he is a dealer in motorcycle spare parts, adding that he came to Lagos to make some purchases.

"The robbers took everything I bought and collected over N24,000 from me. The money was part of what remained after I made my purchase. I was planning to follow the vehicle and stop at Akure where I would repay my debts, but now they have collected everything," he be-

moaned.

Oche said the bandits first fired at the tyre of the vehicle and held the driver hostage. This made it difficult for anybody to escape. "It is after they had taken what they wanted that they left the bus," he added.

The victim said the criminals shot a passer-by who screamed when she saw what was happening. "They told her to stop shouting but the woman started running that was why they shot her. Immediately they shot her, they ran away; some on a mo-

torcycle while others escaped on foot towards the National Arts Theatre," he narrated.

The woman died while she was being rushed to a nearby private hospital in Ijora Badia.

When *Daily Independent* visited the robbery scene on Monday morning, normal activities had resumed.

The state Police Public Relations Officer, Olubode Ojajuni, said he had not been briefed on the incident.

He added that he was told that there was a clash between miscreants and members of the Road Transport Owners Association (RTOA) in the area and that it was quickly brought under control.