

Robbers Kill U.S. Based Business Woman In Imo

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Officers at the Imo State police headquarters are now investigating the killing, a fortnight ago of a United States-based business woman by bandits in an early morning operation.

Great grief now envelopes the Diakuma community, in Onuimo Local Government Area, of Imo State, where the incident took place. *Daily Independent* gathered that the woman simply identified as Bibiana had returned from the United States, where she sojourned with her husband to pursue the completion of their country home before the Christmas festival, when the unfortunate incident happened.

Dependable sources said the woman had the previous day gone to the bureau de change at Ama-Hausa in Owerri, where she was said to have changed some of the foreign currencies with her

in order to purchase materials for the building.

Upon her return from the market, she was said to have contacted some of the suppliers of the materials and intimated close relations of her intention to stay home to ensure that the job moved at a speed that would enable the family make use of it in December this year.

However at about 1.30 a.m. bandits wielding automatic weapons and other dangerous weapons invaded her home and ordered her to open her door or face their wrath, if they eventually gained entry on their own.

Terrified she quickly opened the door and was ordered to lie face down while the bandits proceeded to ransack the entire house throwing belongings everywhere until they found the money which she had changed as well as the remainders of foreign currencies.

Having satisfied themselves, the bandits emerged from the

rooms and in spite of the pleadings not to end her life, allegedly pumped hot lead into her body, killing her instantly and making good their escape.

Daily Independent was told that neighbours who could not come to her rescue because of the sporadic shooting later arrived the scene and found the victim in a pool of her own blood dead.

The matter was later reported at the Onuimo Police Division from where detectives were later dispatched to the scene for an on-the-spot investigation after which the corpse was removed to a nearby hospital for autopsy.

A source close to the deceased said during her previous visits home, she was always staying in a hotel in Owerri and wondered why she chose to spend the night in the village this time around.

Confirming the incident, the Imo State Police Public Relations Officer, Superintendent Linus Nwaiwu said the incident was

duly reported and that detectives were sent to take an initial report of the happenings.

He told *Daily Independent* that the matter had being transferred from the Onuimo Police Division to the State Criminal Investigation Department (SCID) for elaborate investigations.

According to him the police are not in a hurry to give out more information in order not to jeopardise the ongoing investigations into the matter adding that at the appropriate time the whole truth about the matter would be exposed.

"All I can tell you for now is that police is working assiduously to ensure that those who perpetrated the act do not go scot-free. We are working and I want to let you know that we are going to round them up very soon. This command has warned armed robbers and those who fail to heed our advice will have themselves to blame," he said.