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Nigeria: Police Foil Bank Robbery in Ibadan, Kill Two Suspects

Daily Independent (Lagos)

11 October 2008

Posted to the web 13 October 2008

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The police on Friday in Ibadan foiled a major bank robbery in which two suspects were killed, the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) reports.

The well-armed robbers, numbering more than 20, stormed the Oceanic International Bank in the New Gbagi area of the city in two vehicles, a jeep and a bus.

They first fired into the bank premises to overwhelm both the bank officials and customers.

To scare away security operatives, some of the robbers laid siege to the Gbagi Police Station, located next door to the bank premises.

The offices of both the Divisional Police Officer and the Divisional Crime officer were also attacked. Five vehicles parked at the police station were riddled with bullets.

NAN gathered that Skye Bank, also located next door to the police station, was not spared of gun attacks by the robbers. Police Spokeswoman for Oyo State Miss Bisi Okuwobi who visited the robbery scene, told NAN that no policeman died during the gun duel.

She said the robbers also did not gain access into either of the banks, as a result of the stiff resistance put up by the police.

Okuwobi showed NAN the body of one of two suspects killed by the police, and said the robbers successfully removed the other body while fleeing.

She said investigation into the robbery was underway.

NAN reports the incident forced most banks in the city to hurriedly shut their doors.

Many bank customers who were stranded as a result of the development, resorted to the use of Automatic Teller Machines.

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