

Four policemen, two civilians killed in Osun, Kano robberies

ROBBERS went on the rampage again yesterday, killing no fewer than seven persons in Kano and Osun states.

Several persons were also injured and property and cash running into millions of naira carted away when the robbers hit a first generation bank and a gold market. The bank is in Ikire, Osun State, and the gold market is in Sabongari, Kano State.

Five persons including three policemen were killed in Kano, while the two others one of whom was a policeman, were killed in Osun.

Several others among them another policeman were injured in both incidents. The policeman was shot in the arm in Osun.

His colleague and the

**From Wale Folarin,
Osogbo and Suleiman
Dangana, Kano**

driver of a bullion van were killed when the robbers stormed the first generation bank at 9.30a.m.

The robbers had trailed the bullion van to the bank premises and struck immediately the gate was opened.

Pandemonium ensued as people scampered to safety; while the police and robbers engaged in gun battle.

The injured are in the hospital and bodies of the deceased taken to the mortuary.

The Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO) Joshua Olayemi said the

robbers laid ambush for the bullion van.

He said the robbers on realising that they could not get into the bullion van, carted away cash from the counter and the bank's strong room.

In Kano, a 50-man gang reportedly stormed a gold shop in Sabongari market around 4p.m. They shot dead five persons including the three policemen.

Unconfirmed reports however said more casualties would have been recorded during the shoot out.

In their bid to escape, they abandoned one executive Honda 2007 series and one Toyota Camry latest series.

The robbers, it was

gathered, also carted away three bags of gold in the operations.

A lady whose name was not immediately known was shot in the leg while shopping for gold in the market.

The Police Public Relations Officer for the Kano State Command, Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP) Baba Mohammed confirmed the incident. He said the police had no details of the robbery at the time of filling this report.

The robbery forced the market to close as early as 4 p.m.

The Kano Police Command was briefing the media at the time of this report.