

NEWS

Three policemen, vulcaniser killed in Edo

THREE policemen were killed yesterday when armed robbers stormed the Ekpoma branch of a first generation bank in Esan West Local Government Area of Edo State.

It was learnt that a vulcaniser, eating at a restaurant on the road, was hit by stray bullets.

Many of the bank's employees and customers were injured in the operation, which lasted about 30 minutes.

Sources said seven robbers came in a Toyota Sienna van and a Sports Utility Vehicle (SUV).

They blocked all exit

From Osagie Otabor, Benin points.

Eyewitnesses said three of the robbers were positioned near the entrance, firing into the air.

The thieves were said to have stolen an undisclosed amount of money.

The bodies of the dead were deposited at the mortuary while the injured have been taken to the hospital.

One of the private security agents attached to the bank described his survival as an act of God.

He said: "None of the private security men was killed or injured, but three policemen were killed, and another injured."

Divisional Police Officer Joseph Akpoloa told reporters: "I have just lost three of my men who only this morning booked for arms.

"I have no comments for now."

All other banks in the area closed after the incident.

Police spokesman Peter Ogboi could not be reached for comments.