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# Gunmen kill six in Sokoto police station raid

By [Adamu Suleiman, Sokoto](#) 17/08/2011 00:00:00

- Gang member rescued from detention

Four **policemen** and two civilians were killed on Monday at **Tambawal**, headquarters of **Tambawal** Local Government of Sokoto State, by some gunmen suspected to be armed **robbers**.

The hoodlums were said to be on a mission to rescue a member of their gang, who was in detention at the Divisional Police Headquarters.

The victims included a police inspector, a Sergeant and two Constables, whose bodies were taken to

the Usmanu Danfodiyo University Teaching Hospital, Sokoto.

There were over 12 bullet holes in the front wall of the police station, showing the number of shots the hoodlums fired in their desperation to free their colleague.



After the rescue, the gang reportedly fled through Kambaza—Yaule Road to Kebbi State.

The residents ran helter-skelter as the hoodlums fired shots at the police station.

The hoodlums went away with police rifles and ammunition.

An eyewitness said the gang came to the police station in two vehicles - Volkswagen Golf and Toyota Camry.

The operation was said to have taken place between 5pm and 6pm.

Businesses were partially paralysed following the activities of the hoodlums, who were also said to have attempted to attack a first generation bank.

The source said: “We were sitting when they arrived. They inquired from a Constable outside the police station if he was aware of someone in detention. The policeman replied in the negative. He was shot immediately. The hoodlums then went inside the police station and started shooting. When we heard the gun shots, we took cover.

“The hoodlums rushed out not long after and attempted to enter a bank. They tried to open its Automated Teller Machine (ATM) but did not succeed. They shot at the bank’s security post, apparently thinking there were **policemen** inside. They later rushed out and took off.”

The Nation gathered that during the operation, the Divisional Police Officer (DPO) made calls to the state headquarters for reinforcement.

The police command reportedly deployed mobile **policemen** to the area.

Commissioner of Police Adisa Baba Bolanta visited the scene.

He debunked the rumour that the hoodlums were members of the dreaded Boko Haram religious sect.

The police chief described the hoodlums as gunmen, adding that they had nothing to do with the religious sect.

“We have made an arrest and investigation is still on,” Bolanta said.

Addressing reporters after a condolence visit to the police station, the council Chairman, Alhaji Sambo Bello Modo, noted that insecurity in the country was becoming alarming.

He urged Nigerians to pray for the peace and unity of the country.

Modo said there was need for the residents to be more vigilant when they see suspicious persons.

He assured that the council would protect the residents' lives and property.