# 'I tried to run before they shot me in my thigh'

By Precious Igbonwelundu 11/09/2012 00:00:00

One victim feared dead

Victims of Sunday's armed robbery attack at Oke-Koto, Agege, a Lagos suburb, yesterday narrated their ordeal.

Two of the victims are on admission at the Motolani Medical Hospital, Agege. Two other victims were treated and discharged on Sunday.

Discharged on Sunday night were six-year-old Oreoluwa Olubiyi and her 70-year-old grandmother, Mrs. Morenike Andrew. They were hit by stray bullets inside their sitting room watching television.

One of the patients at Molotani is a 75-year-old woman, Mrs. Jenet Ike, a resident of 19, Railway Street, Agege.

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Mrs. Ike is from Imo State. She was shot at Guinness Bus stop, Agege. She was returning from a burial she attended in the Southeast.

Her daughter, Nkiru Ike, told The Nation that she had gone for the burial of their General Overseer's father with other members of her church.

She said her mother alighted at <u>Guinness Bus Stop</u>, Agege and was walking home with a load on her head when, suddenly, she heard a gunshot from behind and later felt a sharp pain on her back.

"She fell down immediately and some people came to call us and we quickly rushed her to the hospital at about 4pm," she said.

Another victim, Mohammed Abdulazeez from Niger State, was shot in his thigh at 17, Alfa Nla Street, Agege.

The bullet, which passed through a burglary proof, pierced his thigh and passed through to the wall.

Abdulazeez, who is a barbeque seller, said he was at his friend's place that morning when he realised that the whole street was noisy.

He said: "People were just running up and down and the next thing I heard was, 'they are coming'. So, I also tried to run before they shot me in my thigh and I fell.

"I was crying and calling people to come and help me, when the gunmen have left. People came to carry me; by that time I was bleeding seriously. They took me to Motolani Hospital but the doctor refused to attend to me because those who brought me were making trouble with him that they want to see what he is doing.

"They now took me to Mayfair Hospital and they refused to treat me before I was taken to Ikeja General Hospital. At the General Hospital, there was no space; so, the doctor there gave those who brought me a note and also got police report that they should quickly take me to any other hospital and I shall be admitted. So, they brought me back to Motolani and I was quickly attended to."

Abdulazeez urged the government to provide adequate security.

He said: "Only God knows what would have happened to me yesterday, if people did not come to rescue me. If government does not want to provide security in the country, they should please provide it for us in Agege so that we can go about our businesses without fear of being harmed."

The son of Mrs. Andrew, who was discharged after being treated at Motolani Hospital, Tunde said his mother was resting when The Nation visited their Alfa Nla, Agege residence.

He said that the six-year-old girl affected by the attack had been taken to Abule-Egba, on the outskirts of Lagos, by her parents.

Tunde said the injuries were minor as the bullet only scratched Oreoluwa's eye and touched his mother slightly on the forehead.

The Vice-Chairman of the Bureau De Change Association, Alhaji Abubakar Hameed, said two of the association's members were shot but did not die and are receiving treatment at Monike Hospital, Dopemu, a Lagos suburb.

They are Alhaji Muktab Zubila and Abdulahi Gadon, adding that the robbers shot both men on their legs after dispossessing them of an undisclosed amount of money.

A bureau de change operator, Alhaji Mohammadu Muktab, who were shot in their legs after being dispossessed of undisclosed amount of money.

He said: "I was the first person they met when they came. They came in five jeeps and one of the jeeps is silver colour.

"It was about 3pm when they came here. One of the cars blocked the Oke-Koto Junction, another one was stationed at the filling station; the third Sports Utility Vehicle (SUV) was parked on the road beside the bureau de change while the remaining two were parked at the bureau de change.

"They were many in number and they were carrying guns. Immediately, they met me, they told me to bring out all the money I had and they took my N200 million. They also met my son and collected his

N300 million cash before they went to the others."

Muktab said one of the victims that was shot is his relation.

It was also gathered that a 19-year-old girl, simply identified as Taibat, a resident of 5, Ogunnowo Street, Agege, who was shot in the neck by the hoodlums and taken to a hospital at Dopemo, may have died yesterday.

Her friends, Aliu Sani and Sani Mohammed, said she had tried to cross the road to the other side when the bullet hit her.

Aliu said Taibat, who had lost her father, was leaving with a relative.

He said she was an apprentice at a tailoring shop and that they had gone to her house earlier yesterday to ask about her but met people crying and they were told she died.

The consultant at the hospital, Dr. Richard Omotoso, told The Nation that the hospital's ambulance took the bullet that was targeted at the clinic's laboratory technician.

He said the technician, simply identified as Wasiu, was receiving a call, not knowing that the gunmen were approaching from behind.

He said: "On sighting him, they probably thought he was calling the police or something and that was

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how they started shooting directly at his direction. Luckily for him, he bent down and escaped. The bullet scattered our windscreen."

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**Fellow** 

But why mentioning the hospitals where victims are undergoing treatment? This is crazy by these reporters.

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**Florence** 

yes my dear fellow. this is wrong. the Nation Newspaer should know that it is very unethical to mention the name of a hospital where victims of such incident are being treated thereby exposing their lives in more danger. I think an apology or something should be done by this newspaper to correct this grievious mistake.

1 week ago in reply to Fellow

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uche uraih

200m. 300m too much cash, enough to tempt criminals

1 week ago 1 Like

Like Reply

#### mosovie

The attack was brutal and well planned by the criminals. Thank GOD the casualty was not higher than what was reported by the press. However, the reports are not supposed to mention the locations where victims are receiving treatment so as not to expose them to follow up attacks. The government should endeavour to liaise with the police and other security agencies to track down and prosecute the evil guys behind this dastardly attack and end see to it that they are put away from sane society for a very long time. May GOD help Nigeria.

1 week ago Like Reply



#### Onyema58

That bureau de change operator (Alhaji Muhammadu Muktab) should be arrested for exposing other innocent lives to this disaster. How could he be keeping N200 million (and his Son, N300 million) in physical cash? It means that people like him will be keeping billions of naira in their flowing robes (agbada) by the time Lamido Sanusi introduces their N5,000 note. Are they mobile (one man) banks? Or reincarnated Bakin Zuwos?

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1 week ago





### Omachoko joseph

The robbery on Sunday was done randomly including Gbagada. When I started hearing gun shots at about 1:15pm, I taught Boko Haram has come to Lagos. In terms of security, Lagos State Government is trying but the random attacks on Sunday shows that more needed to be done. May God help us in this country.

1 week ago Like Reply

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