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## Five killed as robbers raid banks in Edo

Posted By: Osagie Otabor on: November 05, 2015 In: Featured, News No Comments



Five persons, including two policemen and a private security officer, were killed on Tuesday evening when robbers invaded Igarra, headquarters of Akoko-Edo Local Government Area of Edo state.

It was reminiscent of the 2013 robbery attack on Auchi, headquarters of Estako West Local Government Area, where two soldiers and several civilians were killed.

The Auchi robbery lasted over three hours.

The robbers, in Tuesday's night operation, were said to have arrived the town in two Sienna buses at 6pm in a commando style.

They reportedly took over a police station, where they killed the two officers; other members of the gang simultaneously attacked two banks, where they reportedly blew the gates with explosives.

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The hoodlums were said to have also killed two civilians during a shootout with the police and vigilantes.

Those injured in the attack were said to be receiving treatment at a hospital.

An eyewitness told our reporter on phone that the robbers killed a guard and shot at civilians after ransacking the banks and attacking policemen at the nearby police station.

Another witness said the robbers were heavily armed and engaged the police in a shootout.

It was learnt the policemen in the area fled into the bush when the hoodlums started shooting.

They were said to have returned when an armoured personnel carrier (APC) was brought to the scene.

Vigilantes were said to have joined in the shootout, reportedly blocking the entry points into and out of Igarra.

The robbers had to abandon their vehicles.

One of the robbers was said to have been arrested; another was shot dead.

Items recovered from the hoodlums included N4.4 million cash, 11 AK-47 rifles, 41 AK-47 magazines, three T06 rifles, two vehicles, 21 unexploded bombs, 46 T06 live ammunition, seven mobile phones and seven exploded cases of bombs.

Police Commissioner Chris Ezike, who visited the community yesterday, hailed his men for resisting the

robbers.

Some policemen were still combing the bush yesterday for injured suspects, who might not have fled the community.

Ezike promised to address reporters today on the incident.

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