

Police inspector, 2 civilians, 3 robbers, killed in foiled bank robbery, says Edo CP

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Commissioner of Police in Edo State, Babatunde Kokumo, yesterday evening gave details of how his men foiled Thursday's bank robbery in Igarra, headquarters of Akoko-Edo Local Government Area of the state.

Kokumo said the attack led to the death of two civilians, one police inspector and three of the armed robbers.

Speaking to journalists in Benin City, the CP stated that it was the resistance and courageous fight put up by his men that stopped the robbers.

He gave the name of one of the victims as Ojo Ukana who was arrested over a domestic issue between him and the wife while the other was held for invalid vehicle particulars.

The police CP said debunked reports that two banks were attacked adding that one of the robbers was nabbed.

He said the robbers attacked a new generation bank but they met stiff opposition from policemen who were on duty both at the bank and another one beside it.

According to him: "In the gun duel that ensued between the criminals and the policemen, three of the criminals were gunned down. The operational weapons of the gang were recovered."

"What this gang of criminals did was to divide themselves into two halves; the first half went to the police station ostensibly to prevent the police from responding to possible distress calls from the banks.

"It was the second half that attacked the bank and entered into the banking hall forcefully."

Residents of Igarra town however said the claim that only six people were victims was untrue insisting that more than that number were rushed to the hospital before the commissioner arrived the scene.