

Policeman, armed robbers die as security agents foil Abuja bank robbery



There were casualties on both sides as security forces engaged some armed robbers who attacked a bank in a shootout in **Abuja** on Thursday.

Two of the robbers were shot dead by security agents in the robbery attack that occurred at a branch of First Bank in Abaji at about 5pm.

The intense gun duel forced the robbers to scamper to safety with various degrees of bullet wounds.

But it was not until the security agents had succeeded in apprehending three suspects, including the robbery gang's leader identified simply as Usman.

The two others are Nuhu Musa, a 41-year-old indigene of Kogi State, and Muhammed Aminu, a 25-year-old native of Abaji.

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Another yet-to-be-identified suspect was set ablaze by an irate mob at the scene after being neutralised by the security forces.

A statement issued yesterday by the FCT Police Public Relations Officer, SP Josephine Adeh, said: "In a swift response to an armed robbery incident at First Bank Plc in Abaji on June 13, 2024, at about 5:00 pm, the FCT police, led by the Commissioner of Police, CP Benneth C. Igweh, psc, mni himself in a combined operation with the military, mobilised to the scene and repelled the attack simultaneously carried out on both Abaji Divisional Police Headquarters and First Bank Plc in Abaji by a group of 15 armed men who attacked with dynamites in an attempt to rob the bank.

"One police operative and the gang leader hit by bullets during the gun duel were rushed to the hospital where the doctor on duty confirmed them dead while others are still receiving treatment.

"While search operation is ongoing to apprehend fleeing suspects with bullet injuries, the Commissioner of Police for FCT, CP Benneth C. Igweh, psc, mni, lauds the effectiveness of the combined operation and reaffirms the command's unflinching commitment to ensuring that FCT remains inhabitable for criminals, noting that the safety of the residents of FCT is non-negotiable."