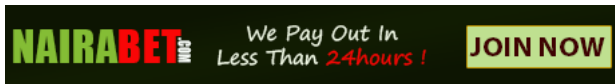


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Bloodbath as robbers invade Osun (/bloodbath-as-robbers-invade-osun)

February 13, 2016

•Policemen feared killed •Bank workers, customers murdered •3 robbers gunned down

Written by: Oluwole Ige - Osogbo



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DAREDEVIL armed robbers on Friday stormed commercial banks in Ikirun town in Ifelodun Local Government area of Osun State, with no fewer than four policemen and six civilians feared killed in the operations they carried out.

Saturday Tribune authoritatively gathered that the incident, which took place in the afternoon, caused confusion in the town as residents and shop owners scamped for safety while the siege lasted.

According to a source in one of the banks, the robbers stormed that particular bank around 3pm and ordered everybody to lie face down. They were said to have succeeded in carting away a large sum of money from the bank.

It was also gathered that the banks, late on Friday, were still trying to ascertain the extent of their losses in monetary terms.

A resident of the town who witnessed the incident, described it as "a war."

Another credible source informed Saturday Tribune that the armed robbers, who invaded the town in about four vehicles, used explosives to break security doors of three commercial banks located in the heart of the town, just as they shot sporadically into the air to create panic among the people.

Saturday Tribune correspondent learnt that riot policemen who responded to distress calls engaged the hoodlums in a shootout that lasted more than 45 minutes and in the process killed two of the armed robbers, injured one, while one was caught.

According to the source, "the riot policemen barricaded all the the entry points into Ikirun, thus making it difficult for the armed robbers to escape. But when the robbers took on the policemen, they realised that they had been trapped. They started shooting indiscriminately and an unspecified number of people were killed and seriously wounded."

"Before the arrival of riot policemen, the robbers had killed about four policemen who were mounting security at two of the banks. At least two bank staff and two customers of the banks were also killed with many sustaining varying degrees of injuries during the robbery operation," the source added.

When contacted, the Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO) of the Osun Police Command, Mrs Folasade Odoro, confirmed the incident, but said only one policeman was killed in the robbery attacks, disclosing that three of the armed robbers were gunned down by the riot policemen during a shootout. She did not speak on the other reported casualties.