

Ibadan, on Thursday. Photo: Oyo State Government.

One shot dead as kidnappers invade farm in Fiditi

By Oluwatoyin Malik

SEVEN gunmen invaded a farm in Fiditi Town, Oyo State on Wednesday, killing a customer, while a security guard was abducted at about 5:45 p.m.

Five of the gunmen were said to have carried arms, as they targeted victims to kidnap at the time the workers had closed and were about leaving the farm premises.

Nigerian Tribune learnt that the farm manager, Mr Adelakun Sunday, was about leaving his office when he noticed one of the kidnappers approaching him, wielding a rifle.

Scared, the manager reportedly locked his door, ran

into his toilet and climbed and hid in the ceiling.

It was further gathered that the gunman, who aimed at him, started spraying the door with bullets, but could not gain entry.

The other kidnappers also started shooting, before leaving after about five minutes.

It was further gathered that the manager came down from the ceiling and waited for about 10 minutes before coming out after noticing that they had left.

On the premises, he noticed that his Mercedes Benz car parked on the farm had been ransacked.

By the time the manager

was checking on the safety of others, it was noticed that the security guard working on the farm had been taken away.

Other workers had, however, fled into the bush for safety.

Also, during a search around the farm, an Iggede man from Benue State, who came on his Bajaj motorcycle to buy two dead chickens, was discovered to have been shot dead.

When police were informed, the *Nigerian Tribune* learnt that they went to the farm to recover the body of the deceased.

They also combed the bush to search for the kidnappers in order to rescue

the security guard.

However, the security man was said to have escaped from his abductors in the middle of the night without payment of any ransom.

Confirming the story, the state police spokesman, CSP Olugbenga Fadeyi, attributed the escape of the victim to pressure put on the abductors by the police through continuous search for the criminals who tried to hide to evade arrest.

He said that the body of the deceased had been deposited in mortuary at the State Hospital, Oyo, for autopsy, while investigation had commenced into the incident.

Police will fire suspected bandits in Kaduna