

Robbers attack bank's van, kill two policemen

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ARMED robbers on Thursday killed two policemen attached to the Imo State Police Command on Owerri/Aba Road.

The two policemen, who were escorting a truck and a van belonging to a bank, were shot dead at Ulakwo junction in Owerri North Local Government Area of Imo State when the robbers attacked the two vehicles.

Our correspondent gathered that the robbers overpowered the policemen and took away an undisclosed amount running into millions of naira from the two vehicles.

They had engaged the policemen in a shoot-out before they fled the scene.

The robbers escaped with one of their seriously injured colleagues.

Ulakwo junction is one of the notorious spots for armed robbery on the ever-busy Owerri/Aba Road.

Last week, robbers took over the entire stretch of road

from Ulakwo to the other end leading to the airport, forcing motorists to park for over 30 minutes. Passengers fled into the nearby bush while the operation lasted.

Robbery incidents occur on the road whenever men of the Imo State Police Command are not on duty.

Some innocent villagers who were injured during the shoot-out are receiving medical attention at the Federal Medical Centre, Owerri.

The Police Public Relations Officer of the Imo State Police Command, Alhaji Isah Balah, a deputy superintendent of police, confirmed the incident to our correspondent on the telephone on Thursday.

Balah said he needed some time to get more information on the incident.

According to him, he was just arriving Owerri from the orientation camp of the National Youth Service Corps at Umudi in Ideato North Local Government Area.