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## Four policemen, two others killed in Ibadan robbery

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Four policemen, including an Assistant Superintendent of Police, were shot dead on Thursday in a bloody encounter with armed robbers during a raid on the Idi-Ape, Ibadan, branches of the Intercontinental Bank Plc and the United Bank for Africa.



Photo file

Inspector-General of Police, Mike Okiro



File

Oyo State Governor, Chief Adebayo Alao-Akala

The police also killed one of the 15 bandits while another one was arrested in Akobo, an outskirt of the city.

Sources at the University College Hospital, Ibadan, said that six corpses were deposited at the hospital's morgue after the encounter, while 22 victims were being treated for gunshot wounds.

Two magazines of AK 47 rifles were said to have been recovered from the hoodlums. The slain armed robber was said to have assorted amulets on his body.

The robbers were said to have first struck at the Intercontinental Bank where they stole an undisclosed amount before moving to the nearby UBA.

At the UBA, it was gathered that the marauders parked all the money on the counter and dispossessed customers of their money.

This followed their inability to access the bank's vault.

Some policemen were said to have engaged the bandits in a gun duel at Idi Ape, following which three of them were killed.

The police immediately mounted emergency road blocks in strategic points to ambush the robbers, which led to the killing of another policeman at Ojurin area of Bodija.

In their bid to escape, the robbers shot into the air at Iwo Road, Gate, Mokola, Secretariat, Akobo, Bashorun and Bodija.

The combat readiness of the officers and men of the Oyo State Police command was put to test as men and materials were deployed to arrest the armed robbers.

Governor Adebayo Alao-Akala, who arrived in the country from Angola a few hours after the incident, went to the state police command where he met privately with the Commissioner of Police, Mr. Bashiru Azeez.

In an interview with journalists after the meeting which lasted till 7pm, the governor

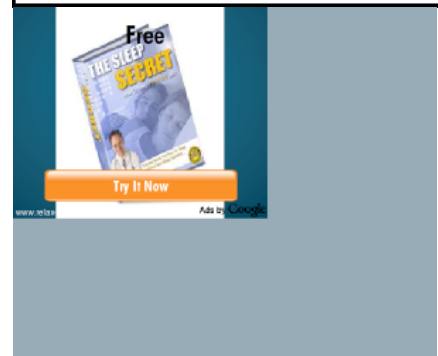
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in an interview with journalists after the meeting which lasted till 7pm, the governor described the incident as unfortunate and promised to beef up security in the state.

He said, "The government will not fold its arms and watch this type of things happening. We will beef up security around the state.

"I commiserate with the police and the families of the slain policemen who displayed high sense of responsibility and gallantry during the incident. Their effort will not go in vain."

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