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Robbers kill two in fresh Ibadan bank raid

By Sunday Aborisade, Ibadan

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Armed robbers stormed Ibadan again on Wednesday raiding the Oluyole Estate branch of the First Bank of Nigeria Plc, killing two persons in the process.



Mike Okiro

The hoodlums, about 15, besieged the city in a bus, a Sports Utility Vehicle and a Toyota Camry car, and reportedly took away an undisclosed amount of money from the banking hall during the operation said to have lasted about 15 minutes.

About eight riot policemen, who were on a stop and search mission on the Ring Road near the scene of the incident, allegedly hijacked some commercial motorcycle riders and fled.

However, the robbers, in a desperate bid to escape with their loot, shot and killed a woman selling jewellery in front

of the bank, which is close to the Ibadan South-West Local Government secretariat and the Oluyole Police Station.

Also, a 17-year-old girl identified as Kehinde, was said to have been killed in front of Obasanjo Farms Limited, located in the area.

Eye witnesses said Kehinde was shot by one of the robbers when she allegedly peeped from where she and others ran for safety in front of the hatchery department of the Obasanjo Farm.

No fewer than five other people, including a well-known poultry farm owner, were reportedly wounded by stray bullets fired by the robbers.

The robbers, who arrived at the bank premises when banking transactions were at their peak, allegedly announced their appearance by shooting at all the security devices mounted at the main entrance to the banking hall.

They were also said to have used a sledge hammer to break the security door.

After gaining entrance into the banking hall, they were said to have told the bank officials and customers to cooperate with them, having collected all their mobile phones.

One of the security officers attached to the bank was, however, lucky as the armed robber who was ordered to kill him allegedly had mercy on him.

He was said to have shouted at him, saying: "You are an ordinary security man; you don't know anything" and locked him up in the security post, while they operated.

Speaking with journalists after the incident, some security officers said a prophet had come on Friday to instruct them to embark on three days fasting and prayer to avert an impending armed robbery attack on the bank.

The security officers said they complied with the instruction of the prophet, and completed the exercise on Wednesday.

The Police Public Relations officer of the state command, Miss Olabisi Okuwobi, confirmed the incident in an interview with journalists on Wednesday.

She said, "We had an encounter with the robbers at the Apata area near Ogun State

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border where their windscreen were shattered and droplets of blood were seen following their vehicles which means that some of them were injured.”







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