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## Robbers raid telecoms firm, one shot dead

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A three-man gang of armed robbers stormed a telecoms firm in Lagos on Tuesday and held its staff and customers hostage.

But the robbers were not so lucky as a prompt intervention of security operatives in the area foiled their attempt.

It was learnt that the robbers besieged the company, Bax Technology, on Bode Thomas Street, Surulere, at about 12.30pm.

The company, it was learnt, deals in telecommunications equipment and accessories, especially mobile telephone sets.

A second generation commercial bank is said to be opposite the company.

While the robbers were still on the prowl, it was gathered that there was a commotion in the area and this attracted the attention of policemen on guard at the bank.

Besides, our correspondent gathered that the police at Bode Thomas were alerted to the situation.

A combined team of riot policemen from Mopol 22 at the bank and others from the Bode Thomas police station came to the company's rescue.

It was learnt that there was a shootout between the robbers and the policemen, leading to the killing of one of the suspects.

Other members of the gang, in the confusion that ensued, reportedly escaped on a motorcycle.

Spokesman for the Lagos State Police Command, Mr. Frank Mba, confirmed the incident to our correspondent.

Mba said after the shooting, the policemen recovered two pump action guns and 14 pieces of ammunition from the scene.

He appealed to Lagosians to promptly inform the police if they had any information on anybody being treated for gunshot wounds.

Mba added that the information could lead to the arrest of other members of the gang, who were believed to have escaped with bullet wounds.

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