

Robbers invade company, policeman feared killed

Olalekan Adetayo

ARMED robbery suspects numbering about 15 on Monday evening, invaded the premises of Tohan Fisheries in Amuwo Odofin, a suburb of Lagos, holding members of staff and customers hostage.

In a cross-fire that ensued when policemen were invited to the scene, two of the suspects lost their lives while one policeman was also feared killed. One other policeman was injured.

Although, the Public Relations Officer of the Lagos State Police Command, Mr. Frank Mba, told journalists on Tuesday that the shot policeman was responding to treatment, an eyewitness who identified the victim as Sergeant Chidi Amoga, said he died on the spot.

The eyewitness also gave the name of the injured policeman as Constable Wale Cosmos. Both of them are attached to the Morogbo Police Station.

While two of the robbery suspects were reportedly killed, two AK-49 rifles, 12 magazines, 30 rounds of live ammunition

and assorted charms were recovered from the robbers.

Mba said that after a combined team of policemen attached to the Rapid Response Squad and those from Festac Police Station forced the bandits to leave the company premises, they had an encounter with them at Church Junction where one of the suspects was killed and one of the weapons as well as 11 magazines recovered.

He said the policemen later chased the robbers to Morogbo where another one was killed and the other weapon recovered.

It was at Morogbo that the policeman was killed.

While confirming the arrest of four of the suspects, the police spokesman said that detectives from the State Criminal Investigation Department and the Anti-Robbery Squad were already on the trail of other members of the gang.

He described the arms recovered from the suspects as "very advanced form of weapons."

But he assured members of the public that the command remained committed to its mission statement of zero tolerance for crime and criminality.