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Five killed, 12 injured as robbers raid bank in Ekiti		
Source:Punch	Ekiti News Section: Ekiti	Date:2011/06/01
<p>By Femi Makinde and Mike Odiegwu</p> <p>The peace of Ado-Ekiti, Ekiti State capital, was shattered on Tuesday as armed robbers raided a branch of First Bank of Nigeria Plc in the Okeyimi area of the town.</p> <p>No fewer than <u>four persons</u> were shot dead while about <u>12 persons</u> sustained various degrees of injuries in the operation that lasted for over an hour.</p> <p>The robbers were also said to have killed a young man in <u>Ilupeju-Ekiti</u> in Oye Local Government Area of the State while trying to escape.</p> <p>Our correspondent gathered that the robbers who came in a convoy of vehicles, including a Sport Utility Vehicle, a white bus, a Hummer jeep and a car were said to have used dynamites to blow open the security door at the bank on arrival.</p> <p>Our correspondent observed bullet marks on the walls of the bank and the adjoining building housing the office of Correspondents' Chapel of the Nigeria Union of Journalists in Okeyimi.</p> <p>Sales representatives of various newspapers at the distribution point at Okeyinmi escaped unhurt as they hid under loads of unsold papers.</p> <p>A V-Boot car belonging to the Chairman of the NUJ in the state, Mr. Tai Akogun, was riddled with bullets but Akogun was not in the car when the incident happened.</p> <p>There were unconfirmed reports that two of the bank officials were injured in the attack.</p> <p>It was also not confirmed at the time of this report if the robbers succeeded in stealing from the bank's vault.</p> <p>Eyewitnesses at Okeyimi told journalists that policemen did not come to the scene on time despite distress calls made to them.</p> <p>An eyewitness who identified himself as an ex-soldier, Mr. Olatunji Olaiya, said that he went to the police station in Okesa to inform the police. But that the policemen refused to come to the scene.</p> <p>He said that he begged the DPO at the station to give him a rifle to go and confront the robbers but that the DPO declined.</p> <p>But the Commissioner of Police in the state, Mr. Olayinka Balogun, told journalists that his men dislodged the robbers and pursued them to Ikole-Ekiti.</p> <p>He added that two of the robbers were shot "but we could not recover their corpses because they were inside their vehicle."</p> <p>Balogun added that a vehicle brought by the gang was demobilised while a magazine with some rounds of ammunition dropped from the fleeing robbers as his men pursued them.</p> <p>Also in Yenagoa, Bayelsa State, armed robbers operating on a motorcycle on Tuesday shot a middle aged woman and snatched a bag containing the money she withdrew from one of the commercial banks.</p> <p>The hoodlums were said to have double-crossed their victims shortly after she left the bank situated along the popular Mbiama-Yenagoa Road in Yenagoa Local Government Area of the state.</p> <p>A source who witnessed the incident told our correspondent that the woman was accosted by the gangsters as she was waiting to board a vehicle.</p>		

