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Gunmen raid bureaux de change, kill many

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Many people were feared dead when gunmen raided bureaux de change in the commercial border town of Mubi in Adamawa on Wednesday, the *News Agency of Nigeria* reports.

Eyewitnesses told *NAN* that the incident occurred around 2pm.

An eyewitness, who identified himself as Danladi, said, "The fully armed men, numbering about 20, stormed the market and headed to the shops where businessmen deal in local and foreign currencies.

"They fired sporadically and I saw four people in a pool of their blood. They ransacked the shops and escaped on foot using the road that led to the river not too far from the market.

"As I speak to you, soldiers drafted to the town to enforce the state of emergency have mounted more checkpoints in the town.

"They have begun the hunt for the gunmen. Some of them (soldiers) have followed the escape route used by the robbers."

Another eyewitness, Idris Maraba, said he counted about eight people being rushed to the hospital, but could not say if they were dead or injured.

"Gun shots were too much and I will be surprised if nobody was killed during the operation," Maraba said.

The Commanding Officer of the Special Operation Battalion in Mubi, Lt.-Col. Beyidi Martins, in a text message, said soldiers had caught up with the fleeing gunmen near Digil village.

Martins said the soldiers had engaged the gunmen in a shootout as of the time he responded to *NAN's* enquiry.

Police spokesman in the state, DSP Mohammed Ibrahim, confirmed the incident, but said he had yet to get the details.






NAN reports that the attack was the second this year.

In the first attack, soldiers arrested some gunmen and recovered a substantial amount of money from them.

Some local and foreign currencies, including naira, dollars and French francs, recovered from the thieves, were returned to the owners.

Mubi, also grappling with attacks by insurgents, is under curfew— from 7pm to 5am – imposed by the military three weeks ago.

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