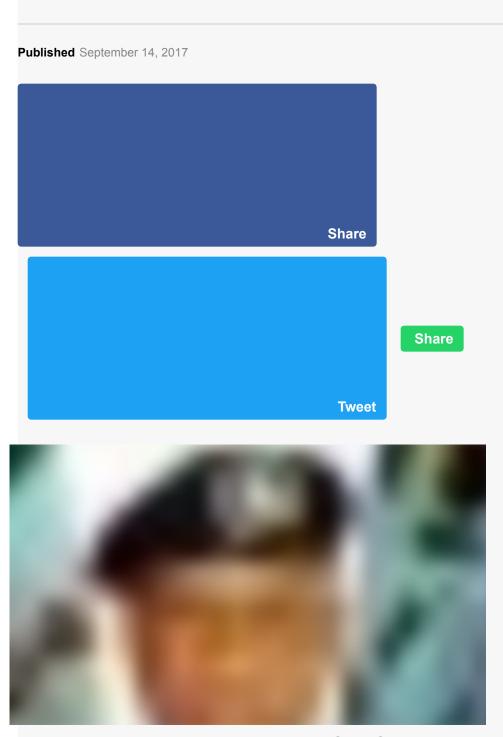
METRO PLUS

Robbers attack bank customer, steal money in A'Ibom



Akwa Ibom State CP, Zubairu Muazu

Etim Ekpimah, Uyo

A four-man armed robbery gang has attacked a Zenith Bank customer and stole an undisclosed sum of money he reportedly withdrawn.

Eyewitnesses told our correspondent that the incident, which occurred at the bank's branch along Oron Road, Uyo, Akwa Ibom State, around 3.15pm on Wednesday, led to many customers and passersby scampering for safety.

The customer, whose identity had yet to be known, was said to have withdrawn a large sum of money and was about to drive home when the hoodlums ambushed him in front of the bank.

It was gathered that the robbers, who were in an ash colour Toyota car, waylaid the man's car with number plate, AKU 224 EJ, and shot into the air.

One of the eyewitnesses, Effiong Sam, said the robbers shot and shattered the side glass of the man's car and deflated its front tyre.

"I was inside my shop when I heard a gunshot and I ran out with my boy to see what was happening."

"The armed robbers shot the front tyre of the man's car. They ordered the man to open his boot or they would waste his life.

"The man obeyed and opened the boot from inside his car for the robbers. I saw the robbers packing the money into their car; two of them wore masks," he said.

When our correspondent visited the scene, the police had cordoned off the place, and barred people from taking pictures.

The Police Public Relations Officer, DSP Chukwu Ikechukwu, confirmed the robbery.

He said the police were already trailing the robbers.

He said, "The DPO has just briefed me about the incident. What we did was to call all the patrol teams to cordon off all the roads in Uyo. That is what we are doing right now. Nobody has been arrested.

"The police actually had a gun battle with the armed robbers, we are still trailing them and we will get them."

In another development, soldiers of the 19 Battalion of the Nigerian Army, Koko, in the Warri North Council Area of Delta State, reportedly killed a suspected ritual killer, identified as *Ghana Bugger*.

Two other ritual killers, who were with *Ghana Bugger*, were arrested for allegedly killing a motorcyle rider in Amukpe near the Sapele area of the state.

It was gathered that the three suspected ritual killers were leaving the bush where they had killed their victim and removed his private parts along the Warri-Effurun-Sapele Expressway, when the soldiers ambushed them.