

Robbers attack travellers in Ondo, kill three

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Ondo State Commissioner of Police, Gbenga Adeyanju

Peter Dada, Akure

Three persons were reportedly killed, while many others were injured on Monday by men suspected to be armed robbers at the Uso end of the Akure-Owo Expressway, Owo Local Government Area of Ondo State.

The identities of the victims, who were said to be travellers, could not be confirmed as of the time of filing this report.

A source said the robbers stormed the road and stopped vehicles going towards Akure, the state capital, and dispossessed many travellers of their belongings.

According to the source, the robbers shot into the air, adding that when the vehicles were stopped, the occupants fled into the bush, while some of them were hit by bullets from the bandits' guns.

“There were continuous gunshots on the expressway for several minutes. The travellers had to hurriedly disembark from their vehicles and rushed into the bush for safety, but some of them were shot dead in the process of running away, while many of them sustained gunshot injuries,” the source said.

Some of the victims, who suffered gunshot injuries, were said to have been rushed to the Federal Medical Centre, Owo, for medical attention.

A traveller, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said he got to the scene of the robbery a few minutes after the incident, and explained that four of the victims were lying dead by the roadside.

When contacted, the Police Public Relations Officer for the state, Mr Femi Joseph, confirmed the incident and said the command was already on the trail of the bandits.

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He noted that the command frowned on the incident and had queried some of its officers for negligence.

“The Commissioner of Police, Mr Gbenga Adeyanju, was not happy about the incident, because it was an act of negligence on the part of our officers in that area. So, some of them are already facing

trial,” he added.