

Police arrest perm sec, bank manager, 3 others in Ekiti

FROM CHARLES
ADEGBITE, ADO-EKITI

The Police in Ekiti State have arrested a serving permanent secretary in Ondo State, the manager of an old generation bank in Ikere-Ekiti and three others, over the robbery operation carried out in a commercial bank in Ikere-Ekiti last Thursday evening.

The Police Public Relations Officer, (PPRO) Mr. Victor Babayemi, who disclosed this to newsmen in Ado Ekiti yesterday, said the permanent secretary and three others had no connection with the robbery, but were arrested in a bush at Ijare, a border town between Ekiti and Ondo State while performing rituals at night in the bush where the bandits were hiding after they were pursued by the police.

Some armed robbers had stormed a bank (name withheld) at 5.30pm in Ikere Ekiti, killing two persons, one policeman and a motorcyclist and injuring two during a gun duel with the men of the Special Anti-Robbery Squad.

The PPRO said the permanent secretary and other detainees were arrested at about 3am for allegedly obstructing the police's operation at a location that had already been cordoned off by the security agents in an attempt to smoke out the evil men from their hiding.

Babayemi added that they were arrested with a live goat and other fetish materials, saying that they would have been mistaken for robbers by his men and killed, but for the professionalism displayed by the police.

The permanent secretary, according to the police spokesman, said during interrogation that they were performing peace ritual for Ijare Community and Ondo State in general.

Babayemi clarified that the manager of the robbed bank was held for alleged suspicion and hoarding of useful information from the Police that the bank would be receiving a large chunk of cash from the Central Bank of Nigeria, Akure branch the day the incident occurred.

His words: "It is saddening that the Bank Manager had to ask our men to leave for the station by 4pm when he knew the bullion van that was conveying large sum of money was already on its way to Emure Ekiti before coming to Ikere to offload. The action was suspicious and we have to get to the root of this."

Amn
unco
defra

Tplan
pecti
of t
gram
agita
Delta

In
yeste
Medi
tions
the A
fraud
es en
nesty
ciar
the
that
nated
Payo
recte
site:
styp
Th
also
N3,0
to a
cour
nan
tual
N5,
mer
Del
Em

T
tanc
form
sen
ben
tha
the
ey

C
ur
ha

BY
EC

ha
be
na
to
th
tu
N

E
N
in
m
or
o
M
m
ti
th
g
n

f
t
b
A
s
u
t
I
t
t
f
C
l

support-
mass the
e to be
ied the
as plan
maechi
ch the
o him,
gover-
ble by
Judge

Prince
d for-
sident,
heads
nering
y me-
n held
um in
ads of
e days,
le had
sident
in the
0, 000
ay on

ister
waju
buja
NDA

st