Bank Robbery Claims 6 in 2 States

To fewer than six people were feared killed in two bank robbery incidents in Ado-Ekiti, Ekiti State and Nwaoriubi, Imo State yesterday.

The armed robbers numbering about 15 practically held Ado-Ekiti hostage as they invaded a first generation bank located at the Oba's market, which is opposite the palace of Ewi of Ado-Ekiti, Oba Rufus Aladesanmi.

The robbers on entering the banking hall ordered everybody to lie down, while those who kept watch outside were shooting sporadically into the air to scare away the people, especially the market men and women, as yesterday was a market day.

During the robbery incident, several people, who were hit by stray bullets including one Prince Adedayo Aladesanmi sustained various degrees of bullet wounds

Besides, no fewer than 10 people were feared dead, while others who sustained various degrees of injuries are currently receiving treatment at the emergency ward of the state Specialist Hospital, Ado-Ekiti.

THISDAY gathered that the robbers came in luxury cars which included a Mazda car with registration number Ekiti 998 Otun, a Toyota Camry car with registration number DLA 567 and a blue space wagon that were later abandoned at Ereguru area of Ado-Ekiti.

One supermarket beside the bank belonging to the wife of the monarch, Ride and Pick Gift Shop, was riddled with bullets, while goods worth thousands of naira were destroyed.

Beside that, a story building

IMO

From Toba Suleiman in Ado-Ekiti and Amby Uneze in Owerri

located on left side of the bank was equally riddled with bullets.

The state police, who later confronted the robbers in a gun duel, at Ilawe-Ekiti while trying to escape, killed three of the robbers, while others escaped into the bush.

However, a policeman, who was going to his duty post at Ijero-Ekiti was shot by the robbers, on their way from Ilesa in Osun State, where they first operated before coming to Ado-Ekiti.

In a press briefing by the state Police Commissioner, Mr. Yomi Onashile, who confirmed the robbery, said about N2 million, several arms and ammunitions were recovered from the robbers.

Onashile said three of the robbers were killed in Ilawe-Ekiti during a shoot out, while others escaped.

Besides the Toyota Camry car and white bus used for the operation, ammunitions recovered include AK 47, 10 FNC riffle, pistol original, with 9 live ammunition, four live catridges, 18 magazines fully loaded, and several others.

He therefore, urged people with useful information about the robbers' hideout not hesitate to furnish his office with information, as adequate protection of such person would be guaranteed.

Three people were also feared killed in the robbery incident involving a bank in Nwaoriubi, headquarters of Mbaitoli Local Government Area of Imo State yesterday.

According to an eyewitness account, the armed robbers, on entering the bank started shooting sporadically, while they ordered both staff and customers to lie face down.

He said the robbers succeeded in carting away an undisclosed amount of money from the bank.

THISDAY further gathered that the robbers, who operated unchallenged for about 50 minutes killed three people including a Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC) and headed towards Orlu.

Efforts by a combined team of police and army with an Armoured Personnel Carrier (APC) to confront the robbers had no effect as the robbers had already fled with their loot

before the arrival of the security men.

The state Police Command's Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Mr. Linus Nwiwu, who spoke to THISDAY on telephone confirmed the armed robbery but denied knowledge of any death.

He said: "We dispatched our men on time armed with APC and other weapons; they were able to chase the robbers away without them causing havoc in the bank. I am not yet aware of any killing. Our men have not returned, we will be able to know the details as soon as they brief the Command."

He further said the robbery was not successful as the robbers could not remove any cash from the bank because of the prompt arrival of the police.

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Gunmen Kill Fuel Dealer

arely three weeks after the assassination of a retired Permanent Secretary in Ibadan, Mr Demola Oyagbemi, by yet to be identified killers, another set of assailants had mowed down the Managing Director of Samalis Oil, Mr Gbenga Taiwo, in his residence at Oluyole Estate Extension, Aba Aladiye, Ibadan.

Oyagbemi, until his death, was Managing Director and CEO of Demoya Oil, old Ife

The state police command have, however, assured that the killers would be tracked down, adding that it was making of the content of the conte

road, Ibadan.

Oyo

From Tunde Sanni in Ibadan

the retired top civil servant.

The assassins, according to THISDAY sources, reportedly came on a motorcycle and laid ambush for their victim until he came around his house around 10p.m. on the fateful day.

that the assassins told their victim that they had already been paid an undisclosed amount of money to assassinate him, after which he was killed, in spite of chief also the ideal of the content of the content and the cont

paid to them.

Ple Account