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## Robbers Invade Akure, Kill Policeman

Yinka Oladoyinbo, Akure - 27.12.2008

Barely 24 hours after the big wigs of the Nigeria Police led by the Inspector General, Mr. Mike Okiro, left Akure, Ondo State, a nine-man robbery gang on Friday invaded a new generation commercial bank located in Alagbaka area of the state killing a policeman in the process.

The officer from the Special Anti Robbery Squad of the Ondo State Command of the Nigeria Police was reportedly shot while on the trail of the robbers.

The incident, however, led to panic among banks in the town as they hurriedly shut their gates preventing customers and others to enter.

The banks located in Alagbaka, Oba-Adesida and Oyemekun refused to open the gates to customers.

Reacting to the incident, Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Adeniran Aremu said one of the robbers was killed along Owo Expressway.

He said one AK 47 riddle, two cars, live ammunitions and 20 empty 'Ghana Must Go' bags were recovered from the arrested robbers, while others escaped.

Saturday Tribune gathered that the robbers invaded the bank in a Toyota Camry saloon car and another Mazda saloon car at about 12.30 pm.

The fully armed men were said to have gone straight to the building which housed two banks, but finally settled for the new generation bank.

It was, however, easy for the robbers to gain entrance into the bank as the bank did not have the security door with the new technology which other banks were using.

Four of the robbers were said to have approached the entrance but the security man on guard accosted them and told them that only one person could enter at a time.

It was at this point that the robbers drew out their pistols and forced their way into the banking hall.

The robbers were also said to have ransacked the banking hall and requested for the Manager, who promptly identified himself and the robbers demanded for the key to the strong room.

However, when the robbers could not get to the vault they took all the money on the counter and those yet to be paid in by customers and the mobile phones of workers and customers.

A distress call put through to the police was said to have led to the intervention of the men of SARS who pursued the robbers who tried to escape through the expressway after the operation.