One killed as robbers raid another bank in Ogun

By Kolade Larewaju

ABEOKUTA— ANOTHER bank robbery, the fourth in three weeks yesterday occurred in Ogun State, claiming the life of a 17-year-old telephone operator. The robbery incident which occurred at a bank in Folagbade Street, Ijebu-Ode was carried out by a seven-man gang which stormed the bank and carted away a huge sum of money.

The Police Public Relations Officer in the state, Mr. Olufemi Awoyale however said that the robbery was not successful, adding that one of the robbers had been arrested.

An eyewitness account said that the robbers arrived at the bank at about 1 pm, and locked the banking hall and the gates of the bank after their entry.

"The robbers were in the bank for about 30 minutes harassing the officials and asking them for money and the key to their safe. They told all the people inside including customers to lie down. When they were going they had about three sacks full of money", the eyewitness said.

The management of the bank was said to have immediately contacted the police who met the armed robbers a few metres from the bank leading to a gun battle.

The unidentified telephone operator said to have been running a GSM Call Centre in the area was hit by one of the bullets and was said to have died instantly.

The PPRO, Mr. Olufemi Awoyale however gave a different account of the incident, saying that the robbers were not able to gain entrance into the bank.

Awoyale said that one of the robbers was arrested while the others, who managed to escape had gunshot wounds."