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**VANGUARD****Nigeria: Armed Robbers Kill DPO, Two Others in Bank Raid**

Kolade Larewaju

15 December 2009

BARELY 10 days after an Assistant Commissioner of Police in the Ogun State Police Command, Mr. Omolodun Oladokun, was killed by yet-to-be-identified rioters in Ijebu Ife, tragedy struck again at the command Tuesday when armed robbers killed the Divisional Police Officer in Ogere and two others during a bank robbery operation.

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Apart from the DPO, two other policemen were equally killed while a female police officer was shot in the leg. The DPO, Simon Otene, was in the premises of the Ogere Police Station when the robbers struck in the bank.

It was gathered that the robbers attacked the police station, which shared a fence with the Union Bank, the only bank in the town while another team swooped on the bank before the workers could take any precautionary measure.

The State Commissioner of Police, Mr. Hashimu Argungu, who spoke on the telephone in Abeokuta said the man was killed during the bank robbery operation.

"The detail of the situation is still sketchy but we learnt that he was killed when the robbers, who came in a bus, attacked the station but we are still investigating", he said

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A source in the town, however, said the bandits reportedly came to set free some armed robbers allegedly detained in the police station.

According to the source, "They said some robbers were arrested around this place some days ago and detained in the station in Ogere. So, it was not the bank that they came for originally, though it was difficult to know if they eventually raided the bank."

It would be recalled that robbers had been raiding the Ogere branch of the Union Bank every November for the past two years. In November 2008 in particular, the robbers disarmed the policemen on duty at the station before raiding the bank.

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