

Soldier, 2 others killed in Oyo jailbreak, 262 escapees captured

● 537 inmates on the run ● Gunmen bombed custodial centre – Aregbesola

By Joshua Odeyemi & Jeremiah Oke, Ibadan

A soldier, member of the South West Security Network, codenamed Amotekun, and one of the inmates, were killed in the Friday night jailbreak at the Abolongo Correctional Centre in Oyo, Oyo State.

Our correspondent learnt that 262 inmates have been recaptured out of the 837 that escaped when the gunmen attacked the centre.

Two hundred and sixty-two escaped inmates at the correctional centre have been recaptured by security agencies, the comptroller of the Oyo State command, Mr Noel Ailewon, said on Saturday.

Daily Trust on Sunday observed the lifeless body of an inmate, dressed in jean shorts and a blue long sleeve shirt, at the entrance of the centre.

At the time of filing this report, 575 inmates were confirmed to be at large.

Ailewon told reporters that profiling the recaptured inmates and those that did not escape was ongoing.

Our correspondent learnt that a soldier, who was a victim of the incident, died about 5pm yesterday.

The commandant of Amotekun corps in Oyo State, Col Olayinka Olayanju (retd) confirmed to *Daily Trust on Sunday* that one of his men was killed in the attack.

Meanwhile, the Minister of Interior, Rauf Aregbesola, said the gunmen used grenades and other explosives to bomb the facility before gaining entry.

The media adviser to the minister, Sola Fasure, disclosed this in a statement issued in Abuja yesterday. He said the heavily armed gunmen, who overpowered security personnel on duty after 20 minutes of gun duel, targeted the 'awaiting trial' section of the facility and set many of the inmates free.

Fasure said Aregbesola had been briefed on the attack and was monitoring the situation. He advised inmates on the run to surrender themselves to government to avoid further criminal charges.