

Hoodlums harass Alao-Akala's convoy

*From Iyabo Lawal
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NO fewer than four reporters were said to have been injured yesterday when hoodlums allegedly attacked the convoy of Governor Adebayo Alao-Akala of Oyo State in Bodija, Ibadan.

But Special Adviser to the Governor on Public Communications, Mr. Dotun Oyelade, said it was not an attack but a struggle by some miscreants to get money from Alao-Akala.

The governor, who had gone to commission a road at the Bodija market, escaped unhurt from the scene. However, reporters in his entourage were not so lucky as their bus, which was at the tail end of the convoy, was riddled with stones.

Besides, a Toyota Corolla car marked ABUJA XC 623 ABJ belonging to an electronic media crew and four others were damaged in the attack.

Unconfirmed reports also said that policemen in the convoy, in their bid to ward off the hoodlums, shot into their midst but it could not be ascertained if anyone was killed or injured.

Oyelade, however debunked claims that the governor's convoy was attacked, saying his boss had left the venue before the incident and only left behind the press crew.

One of the injured reporters, Mr. Gbenga Abegunde, of the *Daily Independent* said he was hit on the chest when stones were hurled at the convoy.