Youths protest alleged killing of 14-year-old boy by Oyo Amotekun

From Rotimi Agboluaje (Ibadan) and Oluwaseun Akingboye (Akure)

AGGRIEVED youths, yesterday, protested in front of the Oyo State Secretariat Complex, Agodi, Ibadan, over the alleged killing of a 14-year-old boy, simply known as Peter, by Amotekun Corps operatives.

The youths were seen carrying the remains of the victim on the roof of a tricycle and calling on Governor Seyi Makinde to fish out the killer.

The aggrieved youths blocked all link roads around the secretariat main gate, disrupting human and vehicular movements. Many workers and commuters fled for safety.

One of the protesters, who

Security outfit denies allegation

Gunmen attack bullion van in Ondo, injure policeman

spoke with *The Guardian* but refused to mention his name, said: "We do not want *Amotekun* to be using gun. They should withdraw guns from them. Take them out of town. They must be punished."

Meanwhile, Executive Assistant on Security to Governor Makinde, Mr. Sunday Odukoya, made frantic efforts to appease the youths but they insisted on seeing the governor.

REACTING, the Oyo State Commandant of Amotekun Corps, Col. Olayinka Olayanju, said the operatives had nothing to do with the incident.

The commandant said: "I cannot say what led to the activities of all these people. But because of what we have been doing for the past eight months, some people will not like *Amotekun* to be in existence and they feel we are a threat to them, as we do not allow them to carry out their nefarious activities whether within the town or hinterland. Those who are peaceful and law abiding have nothing to fear.

"We only operated at Sango community where we were called by the community members for being under attack from armed robbers.

"This is a political environ-

ment and some who are not happy with the present government will likely use such things to get at the governor.

"If you say Amotekun has killed someone, there should be evidence. All our vehicles have peculiar colour and unique number to trace. We have had cases like this in the past and because of the information given to us, we were able to trace.

"From the account of those who called us from Sango, they even said when the victims were evacuated to the hospital using *Amotekun* vehicle, they did not pass through Mokola.

"Amotekun has nothing to do with the incident at Mokola. There are policemen and other private security men

guarding the Lotto House and around the area, you can find out if *Amotekun* vehicle was found there."

In another development, gunmen, suspected to be armed robbers, yesterday, attacked a bullion van that belongs to a commercial bank in Ondo State, injuring one of the policemen escorting the van.

The Guardian learnt that the incident occurred at Emure-Ile Junction in Owo Local Council of Ondo State, making it a second failed attempt this month.

The state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Mrs. Funmilayo Odunlami, who confirmed the attack, however, noted that the target was an empty van.