

# Ibadan: Police officer killed in scuffle with 'Yahoo boy'

From Rotimi Agboluaje Ibadan

## • Seven suspects arrested, says PPRO

A suspected fraudster, also known as 'Yahoo boy,' in Ibadan, Oyo State, yesterday, killed a police officer.

The Guardian gathered that the deceased was killed during scuffle with the 'Yahoo boy' at a stop and search at Moniya area in Akinyele Local Council of the state.

Although there are different accounts of the incident, a source said that the police mistakenly shot himself in an attempt to shoot at the 'Yahoo boy'; while another said a stone from the fraudster the officer.

At press time, gunshots were still being released at the scene, while the whereabouts of the suspect is still unknown.

The state's Police Public Relations Officer, Adewale Osifeso, in a statement on behalf of the Commissioner of Police, Adebowale Williams, confirmed the incident.

Osifeso said: "Today, Monday, April 25, 2023 at about 1015hrs, operatives attached to Moniya Area Command under Oyo State Police Command while on lawful intelligence-led stop and search, around a major black spot, were attacked in the line of duty.

"Preliminary investigation reveals that the patrol team, while acting on credible intelligence through visible policing duties, extended their presence around major black spots, highways and

major roads under Akinyele Local Council axis in a bid to deter criminal elements from settling and establishing dominance within the location.

"In furtherance of the above, the team of operatives on patrol led by one Inspector Stanley Ikhine flagged down an ash-coloured Lexus 350 vehicle with a faintly inscribed worn-off number further arousing suspicion from the officers on watch.

"In the process, the vehicle initially slowed down in compliance with the directive before eventually picking up speed and dashing off to evade the officers on duty. "This action led to a chase by the officers in a bid to establish further clarity of facts.

"A few metres away from the initial stoppage point, the Lexus 350 veered off the road to a nearby garage, driving directly into the waiting hands of hoodlums who were also collaborators in the criminal process, thereby

not only obstructing the officers from discharging their duties, but also aiding the escape of the Sport Utility Van (SUV) and its occupants.

"Consequent on the above, the hoodlums attacked the officers unprovoked and attempted to forcefully drag a rifle from one of the officers, which led to a shot being discharged during the struggle.

"Sadly, the gallant officer paid the supreme price, suffering a heavy blow to his skull inflicted by one of the hoodlums while preventing them from dispossessing him of his firearm.

"The body of the deceased has since been deposited at the state's morgue for post-mortem, while seven persons have been arrested alongside 12 motorcycles impounded in connection with the incident."

MEANWHILE, the Commissioner of Police (CP) has ordered discreet investigation into circumstances that led to the arrest of Mr. John Alabi, the Oyo State Correspondent of Silverbird Television, who was allegedly apprehended by operatives.

The commissioner also assigned the Deputy Commissioner of Police in charge of the State Criminal Investigation Department (SCID) to take over the case for detailed investigations.

He advised residents to go about their lawful businesses without fear of harassment or molestation.



The slain officer