

Gunmen storm Obasanjo's chief of staff's Ilorin home

• SSS man killed • Abdullahi's son shot

DOCTORS are battling to save the life of a youth, who was shot when robbers invaded the Ilorin, Kwara State country home of the Chief of Staff in the Presidency, General Mohammed Abdullahi (rtd). A State Security Services (SSS) operative died in the weekend attack.

The shot man, Shittu, is said to be Abdullahi's son.

From Biodun Oyeleye,
Ilorin

He was shot in the chest.

The development has led to a scurry of security activities across the state, with the police launching a massive

investigation into the incident.

The suspected robbers were said to have invaded the house at about 7.30pm on Saturday. They shot Shittu and the SSS officer

whose name could not be ascertained as at press time. It was not clear whether the shooting was due to an attempt by the duo to resist the robbers or not.

Another focus of investi-

gation is the claim by some family members that the robbers did not take anything from the bungalow, which is in Tanke in the state capital.

Sources familiar with the incident said Shittu was rushed to the Accident and Emergency Unit of the University of Ilorin Teaching Hospital (UIH) at about 8.00pm where a team of

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senior surgeons, led by the hospital's Chief Medical Director (CMD), Dr. Suleiman Kuranga, battled to save his life. One of the surgeons with specialisation in cardio-thoracic operations described the victim's condition as "very critical", adding that the team was able to stabilise him. Shittu was later admitted to the "Five Star Ward" of the Hospital, which "very important" carved out of the popular "Ward Five" and re-designed for highbrow patients.

"He was 'shot in the chest, if I may use a layman's language," the doc-

tor, who pleaded not to be identified, adding: "The spot is not a good spot but now I can assure you that his condition is very encouraging."

Kuranga and the spokesman for the state's police command, Gideon Markus, confirmed the story. Kuranga said the victim's condition had been stabilised. He gives no further details. Markus said the command would get to the root of the incident.

Said Markus: "All I can say for now is that we are investigating. But we are assuring everybody that we shall surely get to the root of the unfortunate in-

cident."

There were unconfirmed claims last night that Shittu had been flown to Abuja for more medical attention.

The police had last week paraded four persons alleged to have been caught in robbery operations by some six members of a vigilante group specially "imported" to the state by the commissioner of police, Alhaji Buka Maina, with the aim of tackling the growing crime wave in various parts of the state.

Markus denied the allegations by some political parties that the vigilante group was invited to terrorise the opposition.

Anxiety as deadline for