

Three cops detained over alleged murder

THREE policemen attached to Onitsha Police Area Command, Anambra State, were said to have been detained at the police headquarters, Awka for allegedly killing a father of three, Mr. Chibueze Nwakor, who lived at 15F, Haruna Street, Odoakpu/Sokoto Road junction, on October 13, about 6pm.

Counsel for the family, Anayo Emejue, in a chat with reporters in Onitsha, alleged that the deceased was shot dead without any provocation by three policemen led by Jude Utazi.

He said: "We were told that the three policemen, attached to Onitsha Police Area Command, have been detained in Awka. But when we got to Awka, we saw them moving freely on the streets.

"This was a father of three who hailed from Owerre-Ezuka, Orumba South Local Government, but he lived with his family at 15F, Haruna Street, close to Sokoto Road junction, where he did business.

"He didn't commit any offence, just that he refused to answer their questions and

From Emma Elekwa, Onitsha

he was shot by trigger-happy policemen and they jumped into their ash coloured commuter Hiace and zoomed off.

"The victim was rushed by his neighbours and friends to White Chapel Hospital where doctors later referred him to New Hope Hospital. Because of the severity of the bullet wounds he sustained, he died before he could receive medical attention, leaving his wife and three children to their

fate.

"This is not even a case of torture or assault on the victim, not a case of trespass by the person, but wilful murder of a citizen without any justification or provocation.

"The deceased's wife wants the police to explain why she was forced into widowhood without notice."

In a petition written to the Acting Inspector General of Police, wife of the deceased, Mrs. Dorcas Nwakor, and step-brother to the deceased, Obinna Nwakor, through

their counsel, Anayo Emejue, said the accused policemen led by Jude Utazi killed the deceased for allegedly refusing to answer questions put to him.

The petition was copied to Commissioner of Police Anambra, State Director of DSS, Attorney General and Commissioner for Justice, Attorney General and Minister of Justice, Abuja, Director, National Human Rights Commission Abuja, Secretary to the Government of the Federation, among others.

Amotekun arrests 33 kidnap suspects in Ondo

OND0 State Security Network Agency, code-named *Amotekun*, has said it has arrested 33 suspects for offences across the state, including kidnapping.

The state Commander, Mr. Adetunji Adeleye, made this known yesterday in Akure while briefing reporters on the activities of the agency.

He said the suspects were arrested for allegedly committing offences ranging from kidnapping to house breaking, stealing of motorcycles and trading in human beings, among others.

Adeleye said the suspects were picked up from different parts of the state.

"For some of them, we have concluded their investigations and they will go for prosecution, while we will make sure the remaining suspects follow due process of the law.

"We have six kidnap suspects and even have

some of their victims here.

"We equally have about five persons that specialise in stealing motorcycles. They will pretend as passengers and hit the Okada rider from the back.

"We have another set of people that specialise in vandalising government assets, especially high tension lines and transformers.

"They were picked up in Okitipupa. We were able to retrieve most of the things they stole," he said.

Adeleye said the agency arrested a group that specialised in breaking shops, adding that the group had a warehouse where it kept stolen items.

"We have been able to return what they stole to the owners, while they will face prosecution," he said.