

EndSARS protests record more casualties

·Police DCO killed, DPO injured in Ogun, station set ablaze

·Police shoot 3 in Rivers ·Protesters burn APC, PDP secretariats, SARS office in Ondo, police shoot 9

·Benin residents impound chopper ·Anti-riot policemen take over Umuahia

·Soldiers identify with protesters in Osun

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A divisional crime officer (DCO) attached to Atan-Otan divisional police headquarters, Ogun State, Augustine Ogbeche, was on Wednesday killed by hoodlums.

In a statement signed by the state Police Public Relations Officer, Abimbola Oyeyemi, the hoodlums attacked the station, killed the officer and subsequently set the station ablaze.

According to Oyeyemi, the hoodlums, under the guise of protesting #EndSARS also attacked and injured the divisional police officer (DPO),

Sikiru Olugbenga.

The PPRO added that the whereabouts of the DPO was unknown at the time of filing this report.

The hoodlums also vandalised Obada Oko divisional police headquarters in Abeokuta, the state capital. Commissioner of Police, Edward Awolowo Ajogun, appealed to the protesters to embrace peace and eschew violence.

In Port Harcourt, Rivers State, policemen shot three of the hoodlums who attempted to set the popular Mile 1 police station ablaze.

Some of the officers had to come out to prevent the hoodlums who were approaching the station from the Ikoku area of Ikwerre

road.

Eyewitnesses said the situation led to immediate shut-down of the Mile 1 Market as traders scampered for safety.

The policemen reportedly held the hoodlums for hours as they shot sporadically into the air. Three persons were later shot and rushed to hospital.

A detachment of anti-riot policemen in several Hilux vans headed for the police station as back-up.

In other parts of the state, there were reports of violent incidents, while another set of the hoodlums operating in Oyigbo Local Government Area of the state reportedly torched the police area command and the Afam police

station.

At the popular Oil Mill axis, a petrol tanker was torched near the MTN headquarters, as most of the roads leading in and out of the area were made inaccessible to the people.

Despite the imposition of 24-hour curfew in Ondo State, protesters resumed activities on the streets, mounting barricades in many areas to prevent movement.

At least nine people were said to have been shot in Akure, the state capital and Ondo town by security operatives moving round the town to disperse the protesters.

Those shot among the protesters were rushed to

various hospitals within the area, though no death was recorded.

In Akure, the affected protesters were shot between Ilesha Garage and Cathedral junction while the defiant youth mounted roadblocks with bonfires at every junction.

Some hoodlums, irked by the shooting, joined the protest and torched the state secretariat of the All Progressives Congress (APC) on Oyemekun road, Akure, after bringing out some bags of rice and other items which they also set on fire.

Some other valuables like laptops, plasma TV, chairs, tables and others were burnt by the hoodlums.

Some set of suspected

hoodlums also set ablaze the secretariat of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) in Akure.

The office located at Alagbaka area of the state capital was torched by the hoodlums while many items were destroyed.

The state publicity secretary of the party, Mr Kennedy Peretei, who confirmed the incident, said: "The PDP state secretariat has been razed. One of the policemen on duty escaped by whiskers but his vehicle as well as the coaster bus was burnt. This is very unfortunate and a grave danger to our democracy."

Similarly, the office of the Special Anti-Robbery Squad

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