

Soldiers robbed, killed my aide, Senator Adeola alleges

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SENATOR Solomon Adeola has accused military officers operating at checkpoints around Ikeja axis of Lagos State as those behind the killing of his senior aide, Mr Adeniyi Sanni, on August 5.

Adeola who is the chairman, Senate Committee on Appropriations, in a statement made available to newsmen on Monday, stated that information available to him on the circumstances indicated that the late Sanni was stopped at a checkpoint around Ojodu- Berger area of Lagos on his way home at Isheri by 'security agents' who asked him to provide the documents of the car he was driving, which he did through a call to his wife who sent all the documents to his phone WhatsApp.

He said further, "It was

gathered that the wife called a while later and the late Sanni told her soldiers were still checking the vehicle's paper. That was the last she heard from her husband and the body of Mr Sanni, riddled with bullets was later discovered at Toyota Bus Stop area of Oshodi, close to a military barrack."

The lawmaker said he was of the firm being that his aide was killed by a syndicate of soldiers operating from the 9 Brigade, Ikeja Cantonment of the Nigeria Army, based on the update about the investigation of the murder and armed robbery by the Nigeria Police Force.

Adeola said top police sources familiar with the investigation informed him that a similar brutal killing and armed robbery occurred around the same Ojodu- Berger late Thursday night of August 17, resulting in the killing of another Nigerian

whose body was discovered around Iyana- Ipaja after he was allegedly taken away by soldiers from the checkpoint.

According to the information revealed by the senator in his statement, unknown to the soldiers, the occupant of the car they killed and took away his car was the second car in a convoy of two heading towards the same destination.

"The first car passed the soldiers checkpoint but the second car was stopped to check his vehicle's papers. On noticing the absence of the second car after a while, the occupant of the first car (name withheld) placed a call to his colleague in the second car who informed him that he was being taken to Iyana Ipaja by soldiers at the checkpoint. That was the last he heard from him and his dead body was later discovered dumped on the road just like Mr Sanni.

"The survivor in the first car reported the case to the police and a pattern of armed robbery and killing in the area involving men in army uniform was established."

Senator Adeola called on the Chief of Army Staff, Major-General Taoreed Lagbaja to direct the fishing out of the killers of his aide for further investigation, prosecution and justice for the deceased as a pattern of killings and armed robbery has been established against soldiers mounting late night checkpoints around Ikeja with similar unreported incidences in recent times around Ikeja, adding that the Nigerian Army cannot be seen to cordon or harbour rogue elements robbing and killing innocent Nigerians within its fold.

He added that till date, the black Toyota Camry of Mr Sanni, his phones and other valuables are yet to be recovered.