

# Policemen guarding Ogun hide corpse

Deji Lambo

A bricklayer, Sunday Ojo, has been shot dead by mobile policemen who stormed Otere-Apano community, Mowe, in the Obafemi Owode Local Government Area of Ogun State.

PUNCH Metro gathered that Ojo and his colleague, identified only as Kazeem, were working on a building site in the community when no fewer than four armed policemen invaded the premises on Tuesday around 2.30pm.

The cops reportedly opened fire on them as a bullet hit Ojo. He died on the spot.

Kazeem, however, escaped death by a whisker.

The policemen were said to have dragged the victim's corpse and dumped it in the bush in a bid to conceal the crime, as they fled the scene.

The Baale of the community, Ismaila Fatoye, told our correspondent on Thursday that residents gave the policemen a hot chase.

While two policemen escaped, Fatoye said the remaining two cops, who hid in the bush, were arrested. He noted that the incident was reported at the Mowe Police Station.

Fatoye said, "We were in the community when we suddenly heard gunshots. At a junction leading into



• Ojo the community, two people, Kazeem and Ojo, were sand-filling a site, so we ran in that direction.

"When we got there, Kazeem and Ojo were



• Scene of the incident nowhere to be found. We started calling their names, but only Kazeem responded. He came out from where he was hiding and when we saw him, he said we should

# estate kill bricklayer,

not allow the policemen to escape as they had shot Ojo.

"We saw bloodstains on the ground and when we trailed the blood, we found where they dumped Ojo's corpse. At the same time, people in the community chased the four armed policemen, but two of them escaped, while the remaining two ran into the bush.

"I quickly went to the Mowe Police Station to report and policemen from the station, alongside our youth leader, were able to locate and arrest the armed policemen inside the bush."

Fatoye accused policemen guarding a neighbouring estate, which shared a boundary with the community, of perpetrating the crime.

He said, "The policemen were part of those guarding

Pentagon Estate for the estate's Chairman, Kennedy Okoruwa. A boundary separates the estate from our community."

A woman in the community, who does not want her name in print, said the policemen had been tormenting residents, adding that after allegedly killing 30-year-old Ojo, they hid his corpse to incriminate the community.

She added, "The boy (Ojo) went to work to make money to feed himself when the policemen shot him dead. We want the government to come to our aid because we no longer have rest in our community."

The estate chairman, Okoruwa, said the matter was under investigation, adding that Fatoye allegedly brought hoodlums to foment

trouble when the policemen intervened.

He said, "They (policemen) didn't storm the community. We have mobile policemen guarding the estate with over 300 houses. Some years ago, we had a robbery attack on that estate, so mobile policemen from Oyo police command were posted to guide the estate."

"They have been there since last year. Two days ago (Tuesday), we heard that they had a crisis; we were not there; our office is in Lagos State. We heard that as usual, he (Fatoye) and some people went to create some crisis at the back of our estate that we are still developing."

"Our lawyers and staff who went to investigate the matter yesterday (Wednesday) said there were alterations between the mobile policemen and them (Fatoye) and we heard that somebody passed on as a result."

"The report I got was that when the guys were having an altercation with the Mopols, the Mopols shot into the air and the other guy was trying to run away. In the process, he hit his chest against some sticks and died. We also heard that it was a stray bullet that hit him. But the police are investigating the incident."

The Oyo State Police Public Relations Officer, Asewale Onifeso, said, "The command does not have any of its officers and men in that jurisdiction."

The Ogun State Police Public Relations Officer, Abimbola Oyejemi, had yet to respond to calls and a text message sent to his phone as of the time this report was filed.

# Suspected female ritualist arrested recovered, male visitor flees

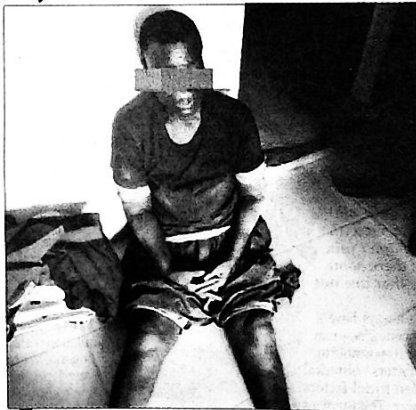
Tunde Oyekola, Ilorin

THE Kwara State Police Command on Thursday said it arrested a suspected female ritualist who appeared to be mentally unstable in the Kulende area of Ilorin.

The state Police Public Relations Officer, SP Ajayi Okasanmi, in a statement, said the arrest was made by men of the Kulende divisional police headquarters, Ilorin, in conjunction with members of the community.

According to Okasanmi, a man in a sports utility vehicle was sighted by the police talking to the woman, adding that he fled before operatives got to her.

He noted that a cash sum of N166,700, children uniforms and books were recovered from the woman.



• The suspect

The woman, according to the police spokesman, confessed that the fleeing

man came to have sexual intercourse with her. Okasanmi said,

"Intelligence available to the command prompted the surveillance mounted around the area, which was the base of the suspected ritualist. She was arrested today, March 17, 2022, around 6am.

"In the process of her arrest, a man in a black SUV found with the suspect zoomed off immediately he noticed the presence of the police.

"In the course of the arrest, school uniforms, notebooks, textbooks and money of different denominations totalling N166,700 were found in her possession.

"The suspect stated that the man seen with her as of the time of the arrest came to have sex with her and to give her water."

The PPRO said efforts to arrest the fleeing man were ongoing.

He stressed that the state Commissioner of Police had ordered a discreet investigation into the matter, while also directing that the suspect be taken to a hospital to ascertain the condition of her mental health.

In another development, the Kwara State Government has called for calm over the recent kidnap of four students of Kwara origin from Bayero University, Kano, and Federal University, Dutse, Jigawa State.

The four kidnapped students are AbdulRasqa

# in Kwara, cash

Kaothar, AbdulRasqa Shakirat, Suleiman Temitope and Idris Mubarak.

The state Commissioner for Tertiary Education, Alhaji Ibrahim Sulyma, who made

the appeal in Ilorin, said security agents had been contacted while appropriate measures were being put in place to secure the release of the students.

# Man arrested for beating 36-year-old wife to death in Delta community

Dele Ogunyemi, Warri

A 42-year-old man, Efe Erinoja, has been arrested by the police for allegedly beating his wife to death in Ororokpe, in the Okpe Local Government Area of Delta State.

PUNCH Metro gathered that the suspect committed the crime around 6.30am on Wednesday after a misunderstanding with his wife.

But the cause of the disagreement could not be immediately ascertained.

Community sources hinted that the cry of the 36-year-old woman, identified as Faith Ekpe, attracted neighbours to their house.

However, by the time residents arrived at the scene, Faith was dead.

Her husband, on realising the gravity of the crime, reportedly fled the community.

The matter was reported at the Ororokpe Police Station by a brother of the deceased identified as Monday Ekpe.

Our correspondent gathered that when police operatives arrived at the scene, they found Faith's corpse on the ground with marks of violence on her body.

The police then removed the body and deposited it at

the Ariemughere mortuary, Orerokpe, pending an autopsy.

A security source said the suspect was later tracked and arrested.

The state Police Public Relations Officer, DDP Bright Ede, confirmed the incident, adding that investigations had commenced into the cause of the dispute between the couple.

# Abuja teenage burglar jailed for stealing spaghetti, noodles

Deborah Tolu-Kolawole

AN Abuja Upper Area Court in the Gwagwalada area council on Thursday sentenced a 19-year-old student, Hillary Yunana, to four-month imprisonment for stealing spaghetti and noodles from a shop.

The convict, a resident of Bassa village, along Airport Road, Abuja, was charged with burglary and theft.

The judge, Sani Umar, jailed Yunana after he pleaded guilty to the offence.

Umar, however, gave the convict an option to pay N10,000 for each of the charges, or serve a jail term of two months for each of them.

He said the sentence would run concurrently and warned Yunana to desist from committing crimes in the future.

The judge said the sentence would serve as a deterrent to anyone who wanted to tow the depraved path in the future.

Earlier, the prosecution counsel, Abudulahi Tanko, told the court that the convict broke and entered the shop of one Gift Ugochukwu, of the same address on March 4.

Tanko said the convict stole seven pieces of spaghetti, five pieces of noodles and a cash sum of N10,000, all valued at N13,000, an offence that contravened sections 346 and 287 of the Penal Code.

# hemists' inject man to death, steal motorcycle

Confessing to the killing of the tricycle operator, the duo said they boarded the tricycle to Badiru's house, where they forcefully held the rider and injected him with pento before dumping his corpse by the riverbank in Uba, in the Hong Local Government Area of the state.

Narrating how they got caught by the police, Badiru said, "After killing Goni, I rode the tricycle to Mubi to sell it, but people refused to buy it due to lack of participants. I then parked

the tricycle at Mararaba Mubi.

"The following morning, I took the tricycle to Mubi for the second time to sell. I decided to call a buyer from Uba. But when he arrived, he asked me how I got the tricycle since he knew me to be a patent store operator.

"The man who came to buy the tricycle called the chairman of the tricycle riders association and informed him without me knowing it. The chairman and the prospective buyer were accompanied by a policeman, who told me I was under arrest."

Lawan, while speaking on his role in the murder, recalled that on March 4, 2022, he got a call from Badiru, who sought his assistance with a plan to kill the tricycle operator so he could raise N100,000 to settle a debt.

He claimed that he only helped his friend to administer the injection, while Badiru strangled the victim.

The state Police Public Relations Officer, DSP Suleiman Nguroje, assured that the suspects would be charged to court at the end of investigations.