

Oil thieves, Oro cultists fingered in murder of 21-year-old

By Shina Ogunbiyi-Joseph

THREE suspected oil thieves have been fingered in the alleged killing of a 21-year-old orphan, Oluwaseun Emmanuel in Iba area of Lagos State.

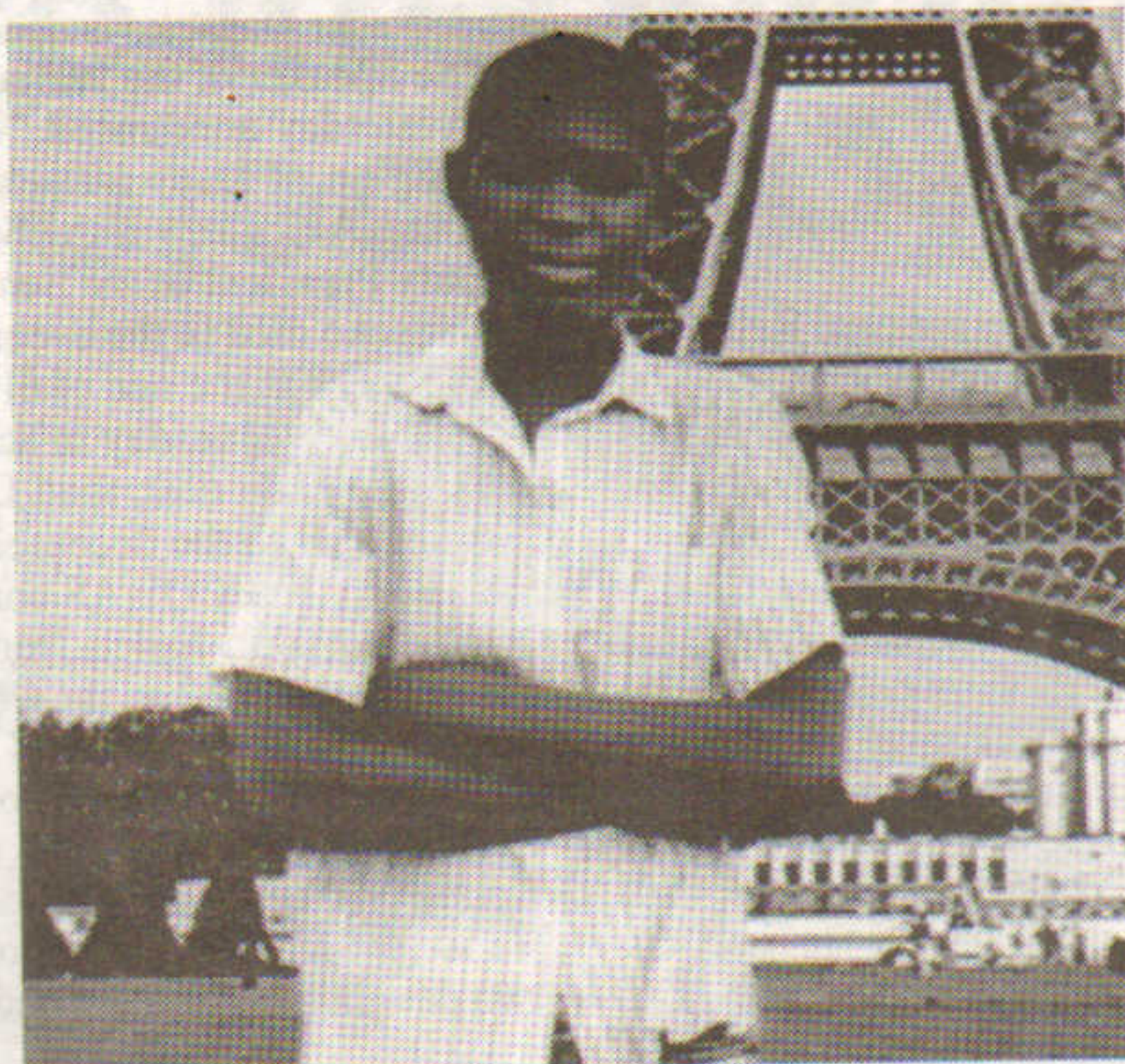
The incident, which occurred on August 28, 2015 around 12.30am, at Iyegbe Street was reported at Ojo Police Station.

Oluwaseun's killer were also alleged to have been engaging in bunkering activities around Ijedodo-Ijemo axis, under the cover of being Oro cultists.

Oluwaseun's elder brother, Sunkanmi Emmanuel said he was shocked to hear that the alleged killers of his younger brother murdered him for peeping through the window during Oro procession.

According to Sunkanmi; "I received a call from a family friend that my younger brother, Oluwaseun had been killed. "I left FESTAC where I went to see some of our Loto agents for Ojo town. Some family members later joined me and we went to Iba Palace to inform the monarch, Oba Goriola Oseni about what happened to my brother.

"At the palace, some policemen also came to see him about the same incident. After meeting with the Oba, the policemen invited us to Ojo Division.



• Oluwaseun

When we arrived at the station, we requested for the body of our brother but the Divisional Police Officer (DPO) told us that the police would not release it to us without carrying out autopsy on the body.

We went back to the palace to inform the king about what the police told us. He implored us to be patient, that we should allow the police to carry out their investigation."

A witness who preferred anonymity told us that Oluwaseun's killers climbed the stair case to murder him.

According to him: "I was inside my room with my little baby, when I suddenly heard

the cry of Oro masquerade. I was shocked because there was no announcement from the palace about any Oro festival, but since I was inside my room, I kept calm.

"The next thing I heard was a strange voice inside the passage, saying; Seun you are peeping at us through the corridor. Immediately, I came out to confront them that Seun as he was fondly called was also a native of this community. Since they were three in number, they overpowered him and smashed his head on the wall resulting to his instant death.

"After they left the compound, I went to Adoulf Police Post to report the inci-

dent. The policemen on duty referred me to Ojo division where the senior policemen there assigned some officers to follow us to the scene. We left with their patrol vehicle to pick up the body which we deposited in the mortuary along Badagry area."

Another indigene of the community confirmed that the alleged killers of Seun had been involved in the business of bunkering for sometimes. "These guys have their depot at Ijedodo/Ijagemo community. There, they will fill many jery cans with petroleum products and travel through the narrow canal that passes under Iba bridge to Agba where their prospective customers will be waiting for them.

"Any day these guys are coming back from their illegal depot, they will be acting as Oro masquerade to scare away policemen or anybody that may want to disturb them from going to their respective homes. However, efforts made by *Crime Watch Today* to speak with the monarch proved abortive, as he was not available.

The family members have therefore, called on the state Commissioner of Police, Mr. Fatai Owoseni and the state Governor, Mr. Akinwunmi Ambode to wade into the matter and bring the killers of Seun to justice.

They also appealed to security agencies to step in and stop the hoodlums from vandalizing petroleum pipelines, so as to forestall further unwarranted killings.

Police arrest varsity student for poisoning school mate