

Amotekun kills suspected kidnapper, rescues victim in Ondo

... Assures Oyo citizens of protection

From **Bamigbola Gbolagunte**, Akure

MEN of the *Ondo State Security Network*, otherwise known as *Amotekun* Corps, have rescued a kidnap victim, Folorunsho Sakirudeen.

Sakirudeen, who hails from Ogun State was allegedly kidnapped, on Wednesday, by three gunmen, at Antonio junction in Ogun waterside.

The victim was later moved to Ajobamidele in Ondo State, where they were tracked by *Amotekun* operatives.

One of the kidnappers was killed in a gun duel, while one escaped through the bush.

The third member of the gang was paraded by the Commandant of *Amotekun* corps in the state, Mr Adetunji Adeleye.

Adeleye informed that an *Amotekun* operative was injured in the operation and currently receiving treatment at the hospital.

Meanwhile, the Commandant, *Amotekun* Corps, Oyo State, Col Olayinka Olayanju (ret'd), has reassured citizens of Oyo State that the corps is committed to protecting them at all costs.

He gave the assurance fol-

lowing reports that bandits who were being dislodged from Zamfara State, by the ongoing military onslaught, were heading southwards. He said the outfit's well trained personnel were patrolling boundaries of the state aggressively, to prevent bandits and criminals, in whatever hues, from relocating to the state.

While commending Governor Seyi Makinde for providing the necessary materials

and moral support to the corps that has set it on a firm pedestal.

Col. Olayanju also pointed out that the corps is working in tandem with agencies within the state and South West *Amotekun* commanders, to ensure peace and stability, so that citizens can go about their lawful duties. He said since its establishment last year, *Amotekun* has brought relative peace and stability to the state compared to the same period the previous year.

Mishaps: FG acquires 20 patrol boats

From **Fred Itua**, Abuja

THE Federal Government, through the National Inland Waterways Authority (NIWA), said it has acquired 20 patrol boats, to boost its monitoring and enforcement of protocols on the inland waterways, towards tackling the menace of boat mishaps in the country.

NIWA's Managing Director, George Moghalu, made the disclosure in Abuja, yesterday, while briefing journalists shortly after the commissioning of the authority's new area office by the Minister of Transportation, Rotimi Amaechi.

Moghalu, while expressing concerns over the menace

of boat mishaps, which has claimed many lives in recent times, said NIWA was "doing quite a lot" to address the issue.

He said: "We are concerned about it. We are enforcing the protocols. Last week, we were in Lagos to inaugurate a task force whose responsibility is to ensure that protocols are fully observed. And to facilitate this, we also gave out three patrol boats to the Lagos office.

"We have acquired about 20 of them and we are distributing them to various area offices. We have also acquired some ambulances, and we are distributing them to area offices."