

Sylvester

# We were contracted to kill, say suspects

Juliana Francis

**T**he Special Anti-Robbery Squad (SARS), Area J Police Command, Lagos State, has arrested three men, believed to be assassins.

The suspects have been identified as Sylvester Bibra 34, aka Gardafi, Daren 27 aka Shokey and Michael Ojintan 20.

According to them, "we're cultists. We belonged to Aiye

confraternity. Yes, we have 'fall' (killed) some people."

The suspects were alleged to be part of a group of cult members that had been maiming and killing at Ikotan Community, Lekki/Ajah, Lagos State.

The suspects were further alleged, to be part of those that used to be hired by land grabbers, to kill or deal with people struggling over possession of land with them.

The gang used to work and walk in group and residents live in perpetual fear of them. The suspects said they have three guns. Police said it recovered machetes, UTC knives and several black caps from them.

They confessed to have killed three people. But police think they are being economical with the truth.

According to them, they were behind the murder of an Igbo trader, called DJ White. The late White sold electronics.

They also said their gang killed a rival cult member, called China, of Eiye confraternity.

Another of their victim, Yusuf Elegushi, was killed over money sharing formula.

Detectives from Area J Police Command were said to have started hunting members of Aiye confraternity, after receiving several petitions about their activities. The hunt narrowed down on one of the leaders of Aiye known as Jungle.

It was in the course of hunting for Jungle that the policemen zeroed in on the three suspects.

The detectives trailed and kept surveillance on the three men for weeks. They would later strike in August 2016, around midnight.

One of the suspects, Daren, also known as Butcher, was said to have engaged two SARS operatives in a fierce wrestling match. He refused to be arrested and attempted to even grab one of their rifles.

A source said: "If not because some of these SARS men are professionals and with wealth of experiences,

Shokey (Dare) would have grabbed one of their rifles. But they subdued him. Today, Shokey is assisting police in its investigation more than any other suspect."

After the arrest of the cult members, they realised there was nowhere to run to anymore. Thus, during interrogation, they started singing like birds.

Sylvester, a father of two, ought to have known better than to be a cultist. But sadly, he was the person that pulled the trigger that witnessed the death of the Igbo trader. He explained that a Ghanaian lady, who was having issue with White over shop space, hired them to 'deal' with the trader.

Recollecting how he killed White, Sylvester said without emotion: "We went there, I saw DJ White sitting in front of his shop. I collected the gun from Shokey and shot him. He died."

Police had been hunting for the killers of DJ White

“

I'm the person that shot DJ White. A lady contracted us to 'deal' with DJ White

**JULIANA FRANCIS**  
CRIME EDITOR

Juliana.francis@newtelegraphonline.com

© Daily Telegraph Publishing Company Limited

CONTINUED ON PAGE 35