

ot abortive as he did not take  
his calls or reply messages  
sent to him.

However, as the time of  
filling this report, normalcy  
had been restored to most of  
the areas by men of the state  
security outfit, 'Operation Burst.'

Governor Seyi Makinde,  
yesterday visited hot spots  
of the protests in Ibadan,  
declaring that his government  
would continue to do what is  
necessary to secure the lives  
and property of the residents  
of the state.

## Akure

In Ondo State, burning of more  
houses by protesters continued  
in several towns.

The targets of the hoodlums  
were political parties' offices,  
campaign offices, private  
residences of politicians and  
public institutions.

In Akure, the Akeredolu  
Campaign Office, located  
near the Akure South Local  
Government Secretariat was  
affected and there was a report  
that the Ala Police Station in  
the state capital, was also set  
ablaze.

In Okitipupa, the house of  
the Executive Director, Niger  
Delta Power Holding Company,  
Mr. Ife Oyedele, was set ablaze.

It was also gathered that the  
Divisional Police Headquarters,  
Okitipupa, the office of  
Benin Electricity Distribution  
Company, the Prison and LG  
Secretariat were destroyed.

The residences of the Police  
Area Commander and that of  
the Divisional Police Officer  
(DPO) were also affected.

## Okowa, Emmanuel, Obiano Impose Curfew

Following the violence in Uyo,  
Governor Emmanuel imposed  
a curfew from 9 p.m yesterday  
to 12 noon today.

The State Commissioner for  
Information and Strategy, Mr.  
Ini Obong in a statement linked  
the curfew to the protest in  
the state capital.

Delta State governor, Okowa,  
also declared a 48-hour curfew  
across the state to contain  
ongoing violent protests.

The governor, who had  
earlier supported the protest,  
said the peaceful protest had  
been hijacked by hoodlums.

Okowa, who addressed  
journalists at the Government  
House, Asaba said the curfew  
would begin 6 pm yesterday.

The presentation of the 2021  
budget estimates by Okowa to  
the House of Assembly, earlier  
slated for yesterday was also  
postponed.

Hoodlums were alleged  
to have destroyed property  
around the Koka area of Benin-  
Asaba-Onitsha expressway.

It was further alleged that  
the operational office of the  
Federal Road Safety Corps  
(FRSC) and the multi-million  
naira beautification garden of  
the state government were also  
razed by the hoodlums.

Heavily armed soldiers also  
yesterday foiled attempts by

suspected hoodlums to break  
into Warri Correctional Centre  
also known as Okere Prisons  
in Warri, Warri South Local  
Government Area of the state.

The hoodlums, THIDDAY  
learnt, stormed the prison  
facility about 11 am and  
forcefully entered the entrance  
but were resisted by the armed  
guard unit of the centre, who  
called for reinforcement from  
the military to ward off the  
intruders.

Soldiers, on arrival, engaged  
the hoodlums in exchange of  
gunshots before they fled the  
facility.

Soldiers from 3 Battalion,  
Effurun and operatives of  
the Nigerian Navy Ship Delta  
(NNS Delta) in Warri have  
barricaded all the routes to  
the facility.

However, one of the warden  
officers was allegedly shot dead  
by the inmates in an attempt  
to force the gates of the facility  
open.

It was also reported that one  
of the inmates died while others  
sustained injuries.

Efforts to confirm the  
development from the  
Comptroller in charge of Warri  
Correctional Centre, Mr. Friday  
Movie proved abortive as he  
refused to respond to calls and  
text message at the time of  
filing this report.

The Nigeria Army also  
repelled angry youths who  
attempted to raze down  
Ebrumede Police Station in  
Uvwie Local Government  
Area of Delta State.

The soldiers were drafted in  
when the hoodlums invaded  
the station but were forced to  
retreat after the police fired  
teargas and gunshots to scare  
them.

Violence also spread in  
Awka, Onitsha and Nnewi  
in Anambra State yesterday.

A police officer was beheaded  
and burnt to ashes by suspected  
hoodlums in Nnewi.

The state police spokesperson,  
Mr. Haruna Mohammed, who  
confirmed this in a statement,  
said three others sustained  
various degrees of injuries.

He said five persons were  
attacked in Onitsha and taken  
to the hospital for medical  
attention where three have  
been confirmed dead while  
two others were receiving  
treatment.

He further disclosed the  
protesters attacked Nnewi  
Police Station, set it ablaze and  
vandalised patrol vehicles and  
other exhibits.

Mohammed listed other  
police formations attacked to  
include Nnewi Area Command,  
3-3 Division, Ogbunike/  
Isiawulu, Nnobi, and Itchy  
Divisions as well as peoples  
club police post.

Reacting to the developments,  
the state governor, Obiano,  
declared 24-hour curfew  
starting from 8 pm yesterday.

The governor also announced  
that the sum of N200 million  
had been mapped out for  
compensation of families  
and victims of disbanded  
SARS/police brutality, upon  
recommendation by the Judicial  
Panel of Inquiry.