

## Ondo students protest as police van kills two

By Dayo Johnson

**A**KURE—**IRKED** by the death of two of their colleagues by a Police patrol van in Ode Irele area of Ondo State, students of a secondary school in the town have razed down a police station, a police patrol vehicle and another vehicle belonging to the Divisional Police Officer (DPO) in the town.

*Vanguard* gathered that three students of Oyenusi Memorial Grammar School, Ode-Irele returning from school over the weekend were reportedly hit by the Police patrol vehicle trailing a trailer used for bunkering activities in the area.

Two of the students, according to eyewitness died on the spot, while the third was rushed to hospital.

Reacting to the death of the student, the Police image-maker, Adeniran Aremu, said that the incident was a pure accident as the brake of the patrol vehicle failed and it hit two students killed one and injured the other.

According to him, the driver of the vehicle is being detained while investigation into the matter continues. He however, denied that the vehicle was trailing any one at the time of the accident.

As the news of the death of the students got to their colleagues, they reportedly mobilised to the divisional headquarters of the police in Irele, in protest to the Divisional Police Officer (DPO).

They were however, angered when the DPO was said to have threatened to shoot them if they failed to leave the police station.

The students then allegedly mobilised and set ablaze the Police station while the policemen on duty fled including the DPO.

Even the detainees in the police cell were set free by the students, who chanted war songs and threatened to cause more havoc if nothing was done to the killing of their colleagues.

The students were also said to have set ablaze two vehicles, the patrol vehicle and a jeep belonging to the DPO.

It took the timely intervention of notable community leaders to placate the students.

Police authorities however denied the razing of a police station, adding that it was only vandalised by the rampaging students.

Image-maker of the Police, Aremu told *Vanguard* normalcy has since returned to the troubled area.