

# Mob razes Lagos police station as cops kill 2

**OLASUNKANMI AKONI  
& BLESSING BALOGUN**

**T**RAGEDY struck in the early hours of yesterday at Orelope Bus Stop, along Idimu, Egbeda Road, Lagos State, when a 38-year-old man, identified as Semiu Murtala, alias Semia, was shot dead by a trigger happy police man operating along the road. The second victim, simply identified as Gani, alias Agba, is critically lying at a nearby private hospital as a result of bullets wounds he sustained on his head. In another incident which happened at a checkpoint opposite Mowo Police Station, Badagry, another person was shot dead while several others were seriously injured following an argument between a police officer and the victims said to be on a journey to Ilorin for a wedding. While a mob on a mission to avenge the Orelope killing did not succeed in burning Idimu Police Station, the Badagry mob razed Mowo Police Station while about 10 cars found there were vandalized. The Orelope Bus Stop incident, which was said to have occurred at about 8 a.m., resulted in heavy traffic along the area as it attracted sympathizers, passersby, street urchins, popularly known as area boys, who blocked the ever busy road till about 1 p.m. protesting the killing. According to eyewitnesses, the victim was being pursued in his dark green Nissan X Terra SUV, with Lagos registration number BF 54 EPE by two policemen on motor-cycle and when they caught up with him, they released bullets into the car, hitting their targets, as the bullets penetrated through from

therear.

Not done with the initial shots, the pursuers got closer to their victims and released another round of shots which saw the dead victim losing control and the vehicle somersaulting before disappearing into thin air. As a result of the traffic congestion arising from the blockade mounted on one side of the road, there was heavy traffic congestion while anti-riot policemen on armoured tank with registration number NPF 3007, were immediately called in to ensure that there was no break down of law and order in the area. It was gathered that the late Murtala, who was in company of his friend, Gani, were coming from a football pitch where they had gone to drop some of their friends who went for football training session at one Ebenezer Primary School in Egbeda.

**S**unday Vanguard gathered that Murtala had earlier gone to Ikeja airport to drop his boss who was travelling out of Lagos and on his way back met his untimely dead on Lagos 'Environmental Day'. According to a source, after Murtala left the school in company of his friend, they were stopped at Okunola Bus stop by a team of policemen but the victims were said to have sped off. Consequently, the policemen gave them a hot chase before opening fire on the vehicle's rear windscreen and further pursued the car up to next bus stop at Orelope where another bullet was released which pierced through the left back door, to the driver's seat and possibly hit the driver on his spinal cord as there were blood stains on the seat and window of the vehicle. The source said that the car somersaulted twice

before it landed on its side, and the police went further to confirm if he was dead before they left. One of the policemen was identified simply as Billy, attached to Idimu Police Station, Idimu, while the identity of the other one could not be identified as at press time.

Our correspondent who immediately visited the police station for further inquiry could not get any response as all the officers at the command referred such requests to the public relations unit of Lagos State Command. The names of the DPO and Area Commander were not also disclosed. Few hours later, precisely at about 2.30 pm, friends and family members of the deceased stormed Idimu Police Station to set the station on fire but were stopped by the prompt intervention of anti-riot policemen who arrived the scene in their armoured vehicle and shot several canisters of tear gas into the air to disperse the angry and protesting crowd.

When the police public relations officer in the state, Mr Mba, was contacted on phone, he denied any knowledge of the incident, saying he would have to get across to the DPO of Idimu before he could make any comment. Later yesterday when Sunday Vanguard tried his number,

he could not be reached. The Badagry killing yesterday happened at about 6.45 am.

## Lagos land dispute cused of taking titioned

**SEUN OYEWOLE**

**A**CTING commissioner of Police, Lagos State, DCP Akpoyibo, officer in charge, Monitoring Unit, Ikeja, Supol Dan Okoro; Supol Ajani of D2 Monitoring Unit, Ikeja and three other police officers have been accused of taking sides with a party in a land dispute. According to a petition addressed to the inspector-general of police, Mr. Mike Okiro, by Mr. Adetokunbo Oluwole Coker, chairman of Nivafer Steel Construction Company and two others, the police officers allegedly took sides with the party in a dispute over some pieces of land at Coker Estate, Oke Shasha in Alimosho Local Government Area of Lagos State.

## SAGE promotes youth programme at Covenant var- sity

**WALIU YUSUF**

**O**VER 400 people including students, academic and non-academic staff in Covenant University, Ota, attended the SAGE Empowerment Seminar recently held at the institution.

Dig your well and Dig it well. You must dig your well before you are thirsty".

The theme of the conference was administered intravenously through the eloquent, incisive and in-depth presentations of Dr Gbenga Adebayo, Akin Akinpelu, Roland Okakwu and Oseni. Other contributors were Micheal