



# One killed as Amotekun, armed robbers engage in shoot-out on Akoko/Abuja highway

●One arrested, 17 passengers rescued

By Dayo Johnson

**A**KURE—NO fewer than 17 passengers were rescued by the Ondo State security outfit codenamed Amotekun along Ifira-Akoko/Abuja highway after a gun battle with suspected armed robbers. One of the bandits was reportedly killed while another was arrested by the personnel of the security outfit. Sources said the attack was carried out by a three-man gang.

Speaking on the attack and how the passengers were rescued, state chairman of Amotekun, Adetunji Adeleye, said the robbers engaged his men in a shoot-out and one of the robbers was killed by his colleague.

Adeleye said: "One of the robbers, Musa Jamiu, arrested with the rescued passengers was immediately given first aid to recover from the trauma.

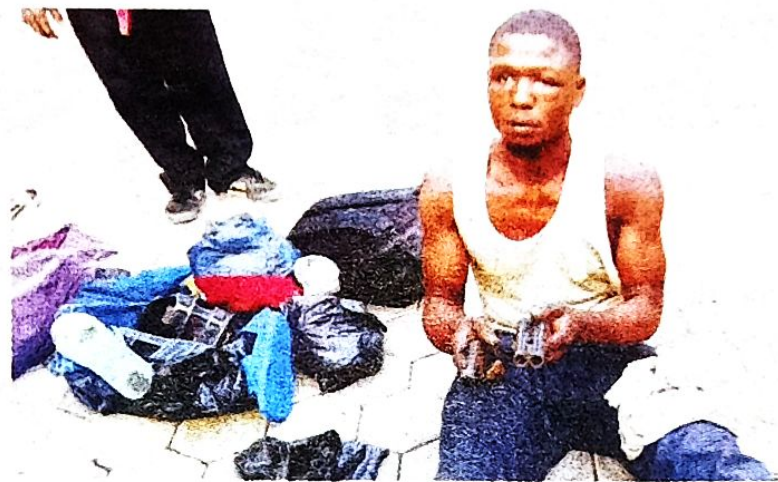
"18-passenger bus was waylaid and led into the bush along Ifira-Akoko on January 11, 2022. We were reliably informed that the vehicle was attacked just outside Ifira-Akoko on which was on its way to Abuja.

"After a pursuit, we found out that the vehicle veered into the bush and men of the Ondo State Security Network Agency followed suit and at the end of the day, when we caught up with the robbers they opened fire on our men and thereafter, we were able to apprehend two of them.

"One of the armed robbers was angry with the other for leaving traces and chose to fire his colleague in the thigh. We knew he was trying to conceal some facts and our men quickly rushed the injured to a



The rescued passengers.



Musa Jamiu, the arrested suspect.

nearby hospital where he, later on, gave up the ghost. But the ring leader and the accomplice were apprehended."

## I was recruited by my friend—Suspect

In an interview, the arrested suspect, Musa Jamiu, 32, confessed to the crime, noting that the operation was his first

attempt and that he was recruited by his friend.

"I'm from Okenne. I'm a farmer at Elegbeka. I went to Okenne to celebrate the new year festival when a friend of mine, one 'MG', called me and promised to assist me. I didn't know that he wanted to introduce me to armed robbery.

"On Tuesday, January 11, 'MG' called me that I should come to Isua-

Akoko junction and I met him there with another person he brought along. So the three of us went for the operation.

"'MG' was the one who supplied the guns and bullets. The operation was my first time engaging in robbery."

## How we were attacked — Driver

Narrating their ordeal, the driver of the bus, Agboola Kabiru, said: "On our way from Lagos to Abuja after passing through Idoani in Ondo State where there is a bad portion of the road before Isua, the robbers attacked our vehicle.

"I was forced to stop after they began to shoot sporadically into the air. They collected the key from me and drove the bus into the bush.

"It was inside the bush that they began to rob us. After they collected our possessions, they left us inside the bush and drove our vehicles away.

"It was when we came out of the bush that we discovered that the bus had been abandoned about a kilometre from where we were robbed. As we were trying to look for the key to the bus, we saw Amotekun officers.

"One of the Amotekun operatives went to help us get a rewire that would start the bus and the rest went inside the bush, trailing the armed robbers. I didn't even believe that the robbers can be caught.

The funniest part was that there were policemen some meters from where we were stranded but they didn't attend to us. We were robbed around 3:30 pm and we left that spot around 8:00 pm."

## Computer firm, police shut counterfeiting