

Five Killed In Okomu Staff Bus Accident

From Michael Egbejule, Benin City

FIVE members of staff of Okomu Oil Palm Company in Edo State, Friday were burnt to death in an accident, along Iguobazuwa Road in Ovia South West Local Council.

The bus conveying the workers was heading to its office at Okomu, from Ex-

tension II of the firm, when the accident occurred.

Sources said the accident was caused by bush burning on the highway.

Five persons died, including three Okomu Oil Palm workers.

Motorists and passengers were stranded, as the burning vehicles blocked the highway.

An official of the firm, Mr. Fidelis Olise, who spoke to *The Guardian* confirmed the accident and death of their workers.

Olise said: "It is a sad day for us. There was an accident involving one of our company buses. Everyone in the bus died. Presently, we are trying to identify those who died. We have identified three.

The accident was as a result of bush burning. While the truck was avoiding the heavy fire around the corner of the road, it rammed into our staff bus. Both vehicles went up in flames. We are in a mourning mood. Families of the victims have been contacted. We are making efforts to take the bodies to the morgue..."