

Tanker Crushes Six To Death In Jos

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Six persons, four men and two women, were on Wednesday in Jos crushed to death by a petrol tanker which lost control due to brake failure.

The vehicle, marked Abuja XQ 441 ABC, which belongs to Sarki Surajo Petroleum Company, also hit two motorcycles, a Mercedes Benz car, and an Audi car owned by Fraga Motors.

About N1.8 million was recovered from the scene of the accident which left sev-

eral other persons injured.

An eyewitness recounted that the tanker developed problem around the *Standard* Newspapers building on Joseph Gomwalk Road and the driver finally lost control at the Polo Club.

Williams Mandi, a student of College of Agriculture in Garkawa who is on attachment at the Polo Veterinary Clinic, recalled how the driver had shouted that people should clear off the road as he approached the roundabout.

But those coming from the ECWA hospital area on

Zaria Road did not know what was happening. The trailer left its lane, after hitting the Audi car in its front, and ran into vehicles coming from the direction of the hospital.

The tank fell off, pushed the Mercedes off the road, and squeezed it on a wall.

It moved on and ran over a motorcycle, damaged it beyond repair, then pushed the other motorcycle along.

The vehicle was brought to a standstill at an open space.

Some of the dead per-

sons were passersby and the riders of one of the motorcycles. The owner of the other motorcycle escaped unhurt.

Mandi confirmed that he was among those who moved the dead to ECWA hospital, popularly known as Jangwano.

The driver of the Mercedes, Umeku Umeh, and a beer distributor were still at the hospital at press time receiving treatment.

Residents of Jos have besieged the hospital to identify the corpses.

The money - a total

N1,830,700 - was recovered from the Mercedes by Mark Morris, a Special Marshall who was also at the scene of the accident.

The fire brigade was called in from Massalaci Jumma, but the tanker did not explode in flames even though diesel poured from it.

Some people fetched the fuel before policemen dispersed them.

A fire brigade officer, Aranding Samuel, took the money to the office of the Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC) on Zaria Road for safe keeping.