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Pandemonium in Benin over killing of bus conductor

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By Francis Onoiribholo Bureau
Chief Benin

There was pandemonium on Tuesday evening at the New Benin market in Benin City the Edo state Capital, after a policeman allegedly shot and killed a middle aged man who was later identified as a bus conductor.

The man whose name could not be ascertained as at the time of this report was allegedly shot by the policeman following an argument between the trigger happy officer and the commercial bus conductor.

The ugly incident forced owners of shops and other business outlets within the area to scamper for safety while ticketing agents of the state government made a detour to an unknown location as miscreants took advantage of the tensed atmosphere to unleash terror on every available trader and market women with the intention of extorting money from them.

Angry bus drivers and others who were moved to sympathy for the deceased and the manner of his killing in the hands of the policeman went wild in protest and attempted setting the divisional police station close to the New Benin market ablaze.

Soldiers attached to the state anti-crime outfit,

Operation Thunder Storm were immediately drafted to the area as guns boomed endlessly.

Hoodlums were also said to have attacked any policeman in sight to avenge the death of the young man, forcing some of the officers to pull off their service uniform thereby averting any unfortunate attack.

Efforts to contact the Edo State Police Public Relations Officer, Joseph Edoigiawerie and the commissioner of police, Folusho Adebajo were unsuccessful as they did not take calls put to their GSM phones.

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