

# Metro

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## Three Dead, Others Wounded In Onitsha As Container Falls On Tricycles, Bus

Several persons were feared dead and an unspecified number of others sustained various degrees of injury when a 20 feet container fell on two tricycles and a shuttle bus.

Although the Divisional Police Officer (DPO) in charge of Okpoko Ibrahim Jefaru said two persons died, eye witnesses said more than five people died from the accident.

The accident occurred along Onitsha-Owerri road near Zenith Bank branch by Obodo Ukwu junction at about 9.45 am.

Eye witnesses said the container skidded off from the trailer crashing on the two tricycles and a shuttle bus.

Jefaru said four people who were in critical condi-

tion were rushed to various hospitals.

Independent learnt that it took the personal intervention of Jefaru, officials of the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC) Nigerian Security and Civil Defense Corps, (NSCDC) and Anambra State Traffic Agency (ASTA) to clear surging crowd coming to take a look at the trapped victims, thereby distracting rescue operation.

As at the time of filing this report effort was being made to remove the vehicles from the accident scene.

The Police from the Okpoko Divisional Police Station and officials of the FRSC in conjunction with the ambulance workers of

the Toronto Hospitals evacuated the lucky four surviving victims said to be in very critical condition.

Vehicular movement on both sides of the Onitsha Owerri Road was halted as sympathisers, were making frantic attempts to block the road with Police, FRSC, ASTA vehicles to pave way for a smooth rescue operation while efforts were made to see how the container could be lifted off the trapped tricycles.

However, help finally came from Julius Berger Construction Company, which brought its heavy and long lifting crane at about 1pm, which lifted the container from the tricycles with the two victims found dead.



The container on the tricycle before it was lifted

CHRISTIAN NWOKOCHA

### Okorochoa In Fresh Trouble As

### Entertainer 'Tuesday Cruise' Jailed