

2 Feared Dead In Traffic On Lagos-Ibadan Expressway

BY GEORGE OKOJIE, Lagos

No fewer than two people were feared dead yesterday in an auto crash on the ever busy Lagos - Ibadan express way when a fast moving salon car rammed into a utility van before bursting into flames.

Our correspondent gathered that the two occupants of the car were in critical conditions they were immediately ferried to the Lagos State Accident Emergency center for medical attention.

The development caused traffic gridlock on Lagos-Ibadan Expressway which compelled motorists to move to the opposite side of the expressway to face on-coming traffic.

For oncoming motorists from Ibadan or Ogun State axis of the expressway to Lagos, the traffic jam started from few kilometers to Mowe area of Ogun state, leading to movement at snail speed up to the Long Bridge which enters Lagos.

A commercial bus driver, Fredrick Aboloma told Newsmen that he had spent up to two hours on the gridlock, urging the government to station towing vehicles to always remove wrecked cars on the expressway whenever accidents occur.

According to him, "We learnt that there was an accident after the long bridged and some vehicles were damaged and needed to be removed from the road. That is why we are here in the traffic. The vehi-



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cles have blocked the road".

Another motorist, Francis Ademola, said: "It is highly frustrating staying in traffic this long. How many hours does it take to get to Ibadan? A journey that should not last up to two hours may take six hours. This is a major expressway the government should must put patrol van on this road to monitor the motorists. I have missed an important engagement just because I cannot meet up the time due to traffic".

A police officer seen on the scene blamed the accident on over speeding and dangerous driving.

According to him, the saloon car instantly burst into flames.

When contacted, the Lagos State Commissioner for Transportation Comrade Kayode Opeifa said officials of the Lagos State Traffic Management Authority (LASTMA) have been deployed to remove the wrecked vehicle and control traffic.