

Policeman kills student over N20 'bribe'

TRAGEDY struck at Ogidi, headquarters of Idemili North Local Government area of Anambra State when a 15-year student of Ogbunike Boys' Secondary School and only son of his mother was shot dead by a policeman at a check-point.

According to eyewitnesses, the incident occurred when the policeman opened fire on a Mitsubishi L300 commercial bus plying the old Enugu/Onitsha road through Nkpor/Ogidi/Oye-Olisa/Afor-Igwe/Abagana/Awka route because the bus driver refused to part with N20 bribe allegedly demanded from him.

The deceased who was identified as

■ Adimike **GEORGE**,
Onitsha ■

Daniel Offiaeli, a Senior Secondary two(SS2) was one of the passengers in the vehicle which was heading towards the 7th Mile area of Ogidi. He died instantly.

Daniel was inside the bus when the bullet hit him and two others. The others were injured and rushed to a nearby hospital.

His death, eye-witness said, caused spontaneous reaction from his fellow students and other commuters plying the route, who took to the streets in protest of

the policeman's dastardly act.

An eye-witness, Mrs. Oluchukwu Onwugbufor who spoke to newsmen, noted that she was at a nearby shop when she heard the gun shot and when she came out, noticed that the bus conveying the students to the school was the target of the shooting. She saw him lying in a pool of his own blood, Onwugbufor said.

The mother of the victim, Mrs. Francisca Uwaezuoke who was wailing uncontrollably when journalists visited her, confirmed that Daniel was her only son and wondered why the police should shoot carelessly. She called on the Inspector General of Police, Mr. Mike

Okiro to ensure that justice prevails in this circumstance.

Efforts to see the deceased's corpse proved abortive as the police cordoned it off and later moved it to the Ogidi Police Station, from where it was believed to have been taken to a nearby hospital mortuary.

Speaking on the incident to newsmen on phone, the State Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Mr. Fidelis Agbo stated that the offending police officer is being detained at the Anambra State Police Command adding that investigation had started into the incident.