

Police confirm one dead in Apapa mayhem

Posted By: Oluwakemi Dauda, Akinola Ajibade and Precious Igbonwelundu On: July 20, 2017 In: Featured, News, News Update





·Officer, 17 others arrested

The police yesterday confirmed the death of one person in Apapa during a protest by tanker drivers.

Unofficial reports however said three persons died in the mayhem.

The drivers' protest started when one of them was shot dead in front of Diamond Bank by a mobile police officer.

The policeman allegedly fled to Sterling Bank on Burma Road to stay with his colleagues there.

To avert an attack, the policemen attached to the bank started shooting into the air.

Two drivers were allegedly killed and one was injured in the shooting.

An eyewitness, Sunday Abiodun, said enraged by the action, the protesting drivers and their motor boys, torched both banks.

Abiodun said: "This morning, a police officer attached to Diamond Bank, asked one of the truck drivers operating here at Apapa port, to give him N1,000 and the man said he was not the owner of the vehicle parked in front of the bank, that he just came to pick his phone inside the truck. While asking the man to give him the money or move his vehicle, the next thing we had was a gun shot and the man died instantly in front of the bank."

Attempts by men of the Lagos State Fire Service, Iponri, to put out the fire, was rebuffed by the drivers.

It was gathered that the firemen left for fear of being assaulted by the drivers and their trucks vandalised.

The Nation gathered that it took the combined efforts of Rapid Response Squad (RRS) operatives, Area B police command, Nigerian Navy Ship (NNS) BEECEROFT and Nigerian Army Signal Corps to contain the situation.

The security operatives also stopped the rioters from setting a tank farm ablaze.

The RRS operatives led by their Commander, Tunji Disu, an Assistant Commissioner of Police (ACP), also prevented hoodlums from looting the affected tanks.

A senior officer, who was ground, said: "Those tanker drivers are very irrational. When the policemen attached to one of the banks shot at the tanker driver, they regrouped and stormed the bank in anger.

"They first demanded that the policeman who shot their colleague be released to them. When their demands proved abortive, they took the law into their hands.

"They contributed fuel from their tanks and set the bank ablaze. The entire situation caused a stampede as both workers and bankers scrambled to escape from the back of the bank to safety.

"The drivers were still on the rampage in the first bank when they heard that the policeman had taken refuge in the next bank.

"Armed with that information, they simply went over to the said bank and carried out same carnage, irrespective of the presence of innocent bystanders.

"They also attacked innocent policemen going about their own businesses. They stabbed no fewer than three policemen who didn't know what was happening.

"Seventeen of them were arrested. The mobile man was also handed over to the DPO Apapa. Calm has returned to the place now."

The Police said they had arrested the officer, who fired the fatal shot and 17 others over the disturbance.

Lagos State Command's spokesman, Olarinde Famous-Cole, an Assistant Superintendent of Police (ASP), said the police went to the scene following a distress call from the Chief

Security Officer (CSO) of a new generation bank.

"The caller said hoodlums were trying to take laws into their hands by setting the bank ablaze following the shooting of a tanker driver by a policeman, attached to the bank after a altercation," he said.

Famous-Cole said operatives of the command including the Area Commander Apapa, RRS and other security agents rushed to the scene.



e Commissioner of Police, Fatai Owoseni, was also there.



mous-Cole said if not for the police's quick intervention, the hoodlums would have eaked more havoc on Apapa.



explained that a mob had gathered in front of the bank demanding the release of the liceman to it.

The bank, he said, refused, leading to the arson and attack on another bank branch on Wharf Road.

The fire at the banks, the ASP said, was put out by the police and other security agencies. He said the driver whose name he simply gave as Azeez was confirmed dead on arrival on hospital.

"Contrary to reports making rounds in the news, only one tanker driver was shot. The policeman has been arrested and would be charged to court immediately. The Lagos State Police Command would like to address the members of the public about the rate of impunity and jungle justice in the state. We are no longer going to tolerate the act of lawlessness and impunity by members of the public."

Association of Maritime Truck Owners (AMATO), chairman Chief Remi Ogungbemi told *The Nation* that the situation had been brought under control.

"The situation is calm and the police are on top of the situation. I have told my members to calm down because they cannot use wrong to correct wrong," he said

Sterling Bank said the policeman ran into its premises to avoid being mobbed, urging its customers to patronage nearby branches.

- e bank said: "An armed mobile policeman fleeing from an irate mob after shooting a liker driver disrupted banking operations at the Sterling Bank branch on Creek Road s morning. He ran into the premises of the bank to escape being lynched.
- ecurity operatives attached to the bank disarmed and arrested the fleeing mobile liceman but did not hand him over to the irate mob.

inhe mob got upset and attacked the bank with the intention of unleashing mayhem on staff and customers. The branch's reception area was vandalised and set ablaze.

"The security operatives attached to the branch prevented the mob from entering the branch while evacuating staff and customers before the arrival of police reinforcement. The branch has been temporarily shut down.

"We wish to inform all our customers that normal services will continue at nearby branches and through all our electronic channels. Sterling Bank is working with security agencies to resolve the issue."

Petroleum Tankers Driver (PTD) said none of its members was shot dead.

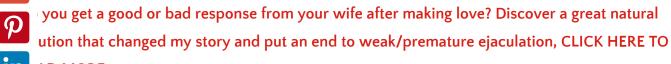
It said reports that some of its members were killed by the police, after loading fuel in Apapa, Lagos, was a figment of the imagination of those who wish out to cause crisis between the two groups.

PTD's South-West spokesman Tayo Aboyeji, in a statement, said tanker drivers, the police and other security operatives were like members of the same family.

Aboyeji said: "The police, the National Union of Petroleum and Natural Gas Workers (NUPENG) and its various arms are established by law, to discharge their duties, without interference. They mutually benefit each other and have not engaged themselves in cas. Members of PTD have not involved in any act of criminality or lawlessness" he id.









ention men!!!! 3 fruit you need eat at least once in a day but you neglect,but will help you fight against. Premature ejaculation,weak erection and increase size and length of your blokos take action here

Wife confesses: I almost cheated on my Husband because of his small manhood and quick ejaculation until we found this permanent solution that added 3.5inches to his manhood size and now Last 25minutes during sex, no side effects. Click Here for details!

My Husband Suffered in Shame for Over 10 Years Until He Used This to Increase His Manhood Size to 5.3 inches permanently and now Last 35 mins in Bed, See the solution Here!

Attention MEN! These 3 Foods causes Weak Erection and Chronic Premature Ejaculation, plus See the 2 things My Husband Did to Increase his Manhood to 5.2 inches and Now Last 25 mins, No Side Effects. Click Here for free info!