

Six dead in road accident

Ugochukwu Ugoji-Eke

Six people have died while returning from a funeral at Arochukwu as the bus in which they were travelling collided with a car at Ohafia, Abia State.

The accident occurred near the Goodluck Jonathan Barracks of the 14 Brigade, Ohafia.

A soldier said he was on duty at the main entrance of the barracks when the bus tried to overtake a vehicle but rammed into the car, which was coming in the opposite direction.

He said the bus, somersaulted hitting another bus parked close by, killing six people in the process.

An eyewitness, Lazarus Idika, said he was working in his workshop when he heard a loud sound which made him to head towards the source of the sound, and that on reaching there he saw the vehicles with passengers trapped inside.

He said: "We decided to break the bus with axes and diggers to bring out the bodies that were trapped and save the survivors.

"The passengers in the car -a man and a woman- were injured. They were taken to the hospital and are responding to treatment."

A survivor said the passengers were returning from a funeral at Arochukwu. He said they were really pressed for time, which must have been why the driver was speeding.

"The driver was speeding but he became careless. He did not check before overtaking; there was no way the accident could have been avoided," he said.

Police spokesman Geoffrey Ogbomna could not be reached for comments.