

③ Tanker explosion claims life of driver, motor boy escapes death in Ibadan

By Soji Ajibola

A driver, on Wednesday, lost his life in a petrol tanker explosion in Ibadan, the Oyo State capital.

The driver's motor boy, however, managed to escape death by the whiskers.

The deceased, as reliably gathered, lost control of the vehicle at Agbowo end of the Iwo Road/Ojoo expressway and rammed other trucks, thereby, resulting in multiple accidents.

The motor boy is, however, receiving medical attention at the University College Hos-

pital (UCH), Ibadan.

An eyewitness said the driver of the truck lost control of the vehicle and rammed the others.

The source said: "It was a deafening noise. Initially, it was mistaken for bomb explosion before we later discovered it was a tanker explosion.

"Some residents in the area alerted men of the Oyo State Fire Services in order to prevent the fire from spreading to houses in the neighbourhood.

"I couldn't confirm whether any of the drivers was killed but what I know is that the

affected trucks have been destroyed by fire."

Confirming the incident, the Director of Operation, Oyo State Fire Services, Mr I.A. Adeleke, said the incident was reported at exactly 2::45a.m on Wednesday in front of Honourable Fijabi House, Agbowo, Ojoo/ Iwo Road, Express way.

"We swung into action and made a fire cover by applying chemical compound, which curtailed the fire from spreading to nearby residential area.

"The body of driver of the tanker was recovered, while

the motor boy was rescued alive from the fire and conveyed to UCH for medical treatment.

"The petrol tanker was destroyed by fire, while the other two trucks and vehicles' spare parts inside were saved by the agency's personnel.

"The accident was as a result of a tanker conveying petrol losing control whilst on motion and hitting other two trucks in front of it.

"Two of the other trucks somersaulted into a nearby ditch and caught fire," the fire service boss said.