

# Driver kills policeman at checkpoint

**Olamilekan Lartey, Warri**

A hit-and-run driver on Sunday night crushed a police constable to death on the busy Warri-Port Harcourt road.

A sergeant was also seriously wounded in the accident which occurred about 8pm.

Both policemen (names withheld) were on official night patrol on the road.

The Divisional Police Of-

ficer in Patani, Dr. O. T. Walter, confirming the incident, said it was a case of hit and run.

He said although the driver initially fled the scene, he had been arrested and was cooling his heels at the station.

He said the man would soon be charged to court.

But drivers on the Patani road blamed the police for erecting an illegal checkpoint on that section of the road.

The drivers said there was no sign whatever to show that

a police checkpoint was on the road and that the officers caused the driver to lose control of the truck the way they jumped into the middle of the highway.

One driver said the truck had obviously avoided the main members of the squad before running over the other two.

The corpse of the corporal had been deposited at the morgue of the Patani General Hospital.