

Robbers attack luxury bus in Lagos

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THE orgy of violent crimes in Lagos continued on Wednesday when a gang of armed robbers attacked a luxury bus in the city.

The bus, which was burnt beyond recognition as a result of the violent attack, attracted a crowd of sympathisers where its carcass lay on the Odo Iyalaro Bridge between Maryland and Ojota.

While it was learnt that nearly all the passengers of the bus escaped, some with injuries, a man said to be the driver was not so lucky. He was burnt to ashes.

An inter-state Hiace commercial bus, which reportedly ran into the burning luxury bus, caught fire and went up in flames.

Our correspondent gath-

ered that the luxury bus, which left the eastern part of the country on Tuesday night, arrived in Lagos at about 3am.

No one could really say the exact place the armed robbers were trailing the bus from, but they caught up with it on the bridge and opened fire.

It was learnt that the robbers pumped bullets into the bus because the driver proved 'stubborn' by trying to escape.

An account said the robbers set the bus ablaze after dispossessing the passengers of their valuables.

But another account had it that the bus caught fire when some bullets hit its fuel tank.

It was learnt that some of the passengers were killed but when our correspondent visited the scene, only the charred remains of the driver was seen.

Rescue workers and secu-

rity operatives later removed the carcass of the Hiace bus to the road's lay-by to ease traffic congestion, which resulted in the morning.

The Public Relations Officer, Lagos State Police Command, Mr. Olubode Ojajuni, confirmed the attack on the bus to our correspondent.

Ojajuni, who was at the state Criminal Investigation Department, Panti, Yaba, where some armed robbery suspects were being paraded, said that he had not ascertained if there were casualties.

"Full report of the incident is just coming to me. It was an unfortunate thing to happen at this time. We are investigating the case," he said.

In the last three weeks, Lagos has been held hostage by armed robbers and assassins.