

# 13 die as container crushes two vehicles

**Ademola Oni, Abeokuta**

**I**T was another night of agony and grief on the Lagos-Ibadan Expressway after a passenger bus and a Toyota Camry were involved in a head-on collision with a truck bearing a container on the highway on Sunday night. Thirteen people were killed.

Apart from the passengers, three other commuters are now in critical condition in the accident that occurred at Ayetoro village, opposite a filling station on the busy expressway.

Speaking in an interview with our correspondent on Monday, the Ogun Sector Commander of the Federal Road Safety Commission, Mr. Olu-Mike Olagunju, said

the accident occurred as the bus and the car were fleeing from some armed robbers operating on the expressway.

Olagunju explained that the 18-seater bus marked KC 720M KC and the Camry with registration number KP 708 AAA were coming from the Ibadan end of the road but got wind that armed robbers were operating on the expressway.

"They decided to make a U-turn on the expressway and drive against traffic but in doing that, they had a head-on collision with a truck, registration number XL 258 APP, which was carrying a container.

"The container on the

truck, which was also coming from Ibadan, fell on the vehicles, killing some of the occupants," the sector commander explained.

He said that it was difficult for the officials of the commission to do any rescue operation that night.

"You know we don't carry arms and we can't confront armed robbers on the road in the night. My men couldn't come to the aid of the injured, who might not have died immediately after the accident. We were only able to get to the spot this morning," he added.

He said the corpses of the victims had been deposited in the mortuary of the Olabisi Onabanjo University Teaching Hospital, Sagamu.

Expectedly, traffic situation on the road, according to motorists, who passed through the road on Sunday night and on Monday morning, became very chaotic.

Our correspondent learnt that the time of the crash also compounded the situation of the victims as it was difficult for any one to come to their aid.

Some residents of Ayetoro village, who spoke to our correspondent, wondered how the policemen, who daily mounted a checkpoint opposite Danco petrol station, suddenly disappeared from the area when they heard about the robbery.