

Transformer vandal electrocuted

Sunday Aborisade, Akure

An unidentified commercial motorcycle operator, also known as okada rider, was on Wednesday in Ondo town electrocuted while attempting to vandalise a transformer at the L.A. Primary School, Odosida area of the town.

PUNCH METRO gathered that the lifeless body of the deceased was first sighted by a passer-by who peeped through the fence of the transformer and raised the alarm to draw the attention of residents of the area.

The residents, in turn contacted the police and officials of the Ondo Business District of Power Holding Company of Nigeria.

It was learnt that the deceased did not act alone but his accomplices fled when the incident happened at night.

Items found on the deceased, according to a resident, Mr. Joseph Eniafe, suggested that

the late okada rider was at the site at night to vandalise cables and other major components of the transformer.

Eniafe said the items found on the man were sawblade, pliers, screwdriver, torch, and a rag to serve as insulator.

Confirming the development in an interview with our correspondent, the Public Relations Officer of the PHCH in the district, Mr. Oghale Edoziare, said, "the deceased must have availed himself of the opportunity of load shedding to the area to perpetrate the act."

Eduziare said the rate of vandalising of PHCN installations in the district in the past four years was alarming, stressing that no fewer than eight transformer junctions were vandalised in Surulere, Oka, Ayeyemi, Lotogbe and Sabo.

He expressed surprise at the development despite regular meetings between the authorities and stakeholders on the risks in

tampering with the facilities by unskilled persons.

He said a similar incident occurred at the Oke-Alaafia area of Ile-Oluji, two days ago, when another young man who tampered with PHCN facilities was injured.

Meanwhile, the corpse of the vandal had been deposited in a morgue while the police had also started investigations into the incident.



• The vandal. Photo: Sunday Aborisade