

One dies

**Dennis Naku,
Port Harcourt**

ONE person was confirmed dead, while another escaped by a whisker when part of a residential building collapsed in Woji community, in the Obio/Akpor Local Government Area of Rivers State.

Both the deceased and the injured were said to be carrying out reinforcement work on an apartment in the building when it caved in.

The property owner, Mr Ejike Ogbonda, blamed the incident on a flood which wreaked havoc in some parts of Port Harcourt and Obio/Akpor following hours of downpour on Tuesday.

While narrating the incident to our correspondent at his residence on Thursday,

in Rivers building collapse, owner blames flooding

Ejike expressed sadness that the man repairing his property lost his life.

He said, "Around 6am, my wife woke me from sleep and said water was coming in and that our gate was open. I have a drainage system that I personally constructed. From there you will see how the whole water from Woji, Ogborama and Apamini will flood my gate.

"It was moving towards the house, so I ran back into the house to wake my kids and we ran out. Everybody in the compound, including tenants, came out and tried to lock the gate against the flood.

"The thing was still coming in, so we got an engineer, who brought two workers. They were working on the building before that



• Scene of the incident

thing happened. One is alive; the other one is dead."

Ejike said he rushed the victim to a hospital in his car and reported the matter to the police, adding that policemen accompanied him to the hospital where the victim was confirmed dead and his remains deposited

in a morgue.

"We are begging the Rivers

Lagos task force impounds 410 motorcycles plying restrict

THE Lagos State Environmental and Special Offences (Enforcement) Unit has impounded 410 motorcycles allegedly plying restricted routes in the state.

The Chairman of the agency, Shola Jejeloye, noted that over 300 motorcycles were impounded last week at Isolo, Ojodu-Berger,

Oluwatosin Omojuyigbe

Ojota, Lagos Island and Surulere, while over 100 motorcycles were seized around 2nd Rainbow on Wednesday during an enforcement exercise.

Jejeloye, in a statement by the Head, Public Affairs Unit, Femi Moliki, on Thursday, stated that the agency would not rest on its

State Government and the Obio/Akpor chairman to come to our aid; if not, this entire building will go down. Let them come and do proper drainage for us because this is a close," he added.

The Chairman of Obio/Akpor LGA, George Ariolu, promised to carry out an on-the-spot assessment of the house.

He said, "For me to be adequate with my facts, I will take a visit to the scene

to look at what happened. But it is quite unfortunate and I sympathise with the owner of the said property. I also sympathise with the family of the person I heard lost his life."

The state Police Public Relations Officer, Nnamdi Omoni, said he was away for a programme but promised to find out about the incident and get back to our correspondent.

He had yet to do so as of the time of filing this report.

oars until the disregard for traffic rules and regulations reduced drastically among commercial motorcyclists in the state.

The statement read in part, "The agency will do all that is within its power to enforce the restriction of motorcycles on Lagos highways and bridges. It is disturbing that motorcyclists are refusing to comply with the



• The seized motorcycles

Lagos traffic law restricting them from operating on highways and