

2 Killed, 5 Cars Stolen, At Calabar Carnival

EMMA UNA/*Calabar*

Two persons were killed with several others either stabbed or raped by hoodlums at the recent Calabar Cultural Centre christened Calabar Christmas Village while the celebrations lasted.

During the period, five cars were stolen from where they were parked at the Village and at the UJ Esuene Sports stadium while their owners were enjoying themselves.

Dr. Ini Etido, the president of the National Association of Sea Dogs in Calabar, said the organisation made available a telephone line to the police command in Calabar for members of the public to contact the police during the period to report cases of crime.

"We do not know what happened but during that period the police who had expressed their joy at the provision of the line did not utilize it. The calls came to us that was how we got wind of the statistics which we subsequently informed the police."

Of the two persons who were

killed, one died of knife wounds and the other was killed by hoodlums at the U J Esuene stadium after he reported the *area boys* who were causing a stampede in order to create room for them to steal handsets and also rape girls.

When the police came to stop them, the hoodlums went after him and attacked him with bottle and chairs and was later trampled to death.

ASP Thomas Opene, the Police Public Relations Officer for the Command said some arrests have been made while investigation is still going on.

Meanwhile, Mr. Etido said the organisation decided to donate drugs and mattresses to the emergency ward of the University of Calabar Teaching Hospital following the dilapidated state of the wards in the hospital.

"While we were celebrating Christmas, those in the hospital were living in very squalid condition. The beds were inadequate, the beddings of those with beds were very old and filthy while the mattresses were torn and bed bug infested," he said.