

# Policeman on the rampage in C' River

From JUDEX OKORO,  
Calabar

## ...kills bus conductor, rains bullets on two others

**T**ragedy struck in Akamkpa community of Cross River State as a police officer was said to have gone gaga shooting a bus conductor to death and injuring two others over an alleged failed business transaction.

The incident, which occurred at about 8:00p.m on Thursday, July 31, 2014, *Sunday Sun* gathered, was as a result of a scuffle between the police officer and the late conductor who was simply identified as Ukwa from Biase local government area of the state.

The police man, who is serving at Akamkpa Division, it was learnt, was hired by a middle-aged business woman to help recover an undisclosed amount of money she gave to the conductor to buy goods for

her in Aba, an assignment the conductor allegedly failed to accomplish.

*Sunday Sun's* investigation revealed that Ukwa and his driver had proved to be reliable persons to a number of traders who ply Akamkpa-Aba for their business transactions.

It was further revealed that the traders, including the woman often contributed money and gave to Ukwa or his driver to deposit with their customers in Aba who in turn would send the goods through the same set of people.

But the woman, whose name could not be ascertained as at press time, was agitated that the conductor could not give reasonable explanation on why the goods which she ordered through him (Ukwa) could not be delivered, neither could she

get the money after three weeks.

Bent on getting her money, the lady was said to have contacted the police man to help recover her money.

An eye witness who pleaded anonymity told *Sunday Sun* that trouble started when the bus conductor and the driver were sighted at one of the drinking joints at Akamkpa town about 8:00pm. The police officer was said to have approached him and allegedly rained bullets on him killing him instantly.

The eye witness further claimed that upon discovering that the conductor was dead, the officer went on shooting spree, as he allegedly shot the driver and a commercial motorcyclist when they confronted him for killing the deceased.

Afraid that he might be lynched by the community, the policeman was said to have

taken to his heels firing sporadically into the air in an apparent move to scare people away.

But luck was said to have run out on him when angry youths finally arrested him and handed him over to the police for prosecution.

The driver and commercial motorcyclist were said to have sustained serious gun shot wounds and are currently receiving treatment at a private clinic in Akamkpa.

The police officer and the woman are said to be currently in detention at Akamkpa Police Division.

In an interview, the Cross River State Police Public Relation Officer, Mr. Hogan Bassey, told *Sunday Sun* that the command was aware of the incident, saying, "we are looking into the matter and would take action soon."