

METRO AND CRIME

Woman electrocuted in Abia



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By **Correspondents**



A middle-aged woman was yesterday electrocuted at the Okpara Square area of Umuahia, the Abia State capital. The incident occurred about 2p.m. The victim, according to a neighbour, was assisting a food seller. The witness said a hightension cable cut and fell on a pole and iron spikes where the women were selling food under a large umbrella.

He said: "The wire fell and all the iron around the place became charged with current and the woman being in contact with the iron barricade was electrocuted. "Staff of the EEDC came with their ladder but before the woman was confirmed dead at the Federal Medical Centre (FMC), Umuahia and was brought back, they had gone." Another young man, who said he went to buy food and drinks when the incident occurred, said while he was there with three others, something fell on the roof with the sound of rain. He said: "The three other boys ran out immediately but I waited to be sure of what the matter was and the safe direction to run.

Then I also ran out under the large umbrella. I turned to see what actually happened, it was then we saw that it was hightension electric wire. All the while, the woman was still there. I wondered why she remained behind and asked her why she was still there, was it that she could not run or what, yet she did not move. It was at that moment that I noticed sparks of light in the iron and chain around where she was sitting." The witness said the owner of the food joint tried to drag the woman out but she was 'shocked,' so she left her. At press time, the owner of the food joint was said to have gone to report to the police and the relations of the woman. Meanwhile, the body was wrapped and left on the ground. The state Police Public Relations