

# 2 electrocuted in Benue, others severely injured

Cephas Iorhemen

MAKURDI

Residents of the Wadata area of Makurdi, the Benue State capital were yesterday thrown into shock and panic as two persons were reportedly electrocuted and others severely injured.

The incident occurred in the early hours of yesterday as people were preparing to go to their various places of work.

A resident of the area told *New Telegraph* in confidence that the incident occurred following a heavy surge from a transformer when electricity supply was restored to

the area.

The resident said the deceased persons attempted to unplug their appliance from the socket when electricity was restored with high voltage when they were electrocuted.

"A nurse who works at a private hospital was cooking with an electric cooker when there was power cut. As soon as electricity was restored, she had gone to unplug it and was immediately electrocuted."

Another victim, a Junior Secondary School (JSS 2) student who also ran to disconnect an appliance from the socket was equally said to have been electrocuted.

*New Telegraph* gathered that several others who sustained varying degrees of injuries had been hospi-

talised.

Regional Manager, Jos Electricity Distribution Company (JED), Mr. Felix Adamu, confirmed the incident.

Mr. Adamu said his men were yet to visit the area and ascertain the cause of the incident and level of destruction due to the tensed atmosphere that enveloped the area.

When contacted, the Police Public Relations Officer, Catherine Anene, an Assistant Superintendent of Police, said "the police is aware of the incident, but do not have any details," even though the scene of the incident is a shouting distance from the state Police Command's headquarters.