The Tide Online 11/03/09 12:03



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INTERVIEW

BUSINESS

POLITICS

ISSUES

SPORTS

Touts Arrested Over Policeman's Death

• Wednesday, Mar 11, 2009

Commercial activities at Upper Iweka, Onitsha were paralysed for several hours Monday, following the arrest of touts at the Aba Motor Park by policemen.

The touts were arrested as a fall-out of the killing of a policeman at the park.

The victim was allegedly lynched when he went to arrest some touts smoking Indian Hemp at the park.

"This unfortunate incident attracted police reprisal as they moved into the park, shooting indiscriminately and arresting people," a source said.

The indiscriminate shooting forced passengers, drivers, hawkers and touts to disperse. Business activities came to a halt as people ran into hiding.

Traffic on the Onitsha-Owerri Road came to a halt, causing a massive jam on the expressway and its environs.

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Eyewitnesses said more than 100 people were arrested during the operation.

Police spokesman Fidelis Ajbo said he would contact the Divisional Police Officer (DPO) for details of the incident.

The Onitsha Area Commander, Assistant Commissioner of Police (ACP) Uchenna Nwamaka, said he could not comment on the matter because he was yet to be briefed by his men.

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