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Policeman kills graduate, 26, in Warri

Sylvester Idowu, Warri

Saturday, November 21, 2009

There was palpable tension in Iyara area of Warri yesterday following the killing of a 26-year-old Engineering graduate identified as Emmanuel Nweze by a police patrol team.

Sunday Tribune gathered that Nweze was returning home in an ash colour Pathfinder jeep with registration number Delta AV 22 WWR, in company of two of his friends, when a policeman from a patrol team shot him.

An eyewitness said the victim had gone out with his friends to mark his birthday and were returning home at about 1.00 a.m. when they allegedly ran into the police patrol team.

“We suspect that the victim refused to stop and was pursued up to Morogun junction, off Iyara road, where he was shot.

Immediately he was shot, he lost control of the jeep, and ran into two other vehicles parked in front of a building causing serious damage on them,” the eyewitness said.

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Immediately late Nweze was killed, the patrol team beat a retreat and escaped into the dead of the night without making any justification for the action.

A resident of the area disclosed that he sighted the patrol team from A Division in the area at the time of the incident, but was shocked that policemen refused to follow up their action by arresting the victim and his friends immediately.

Sunday Tribune gathered that the jeep immediately caught fire, but residents put the fire out and rushed Nweze, whose head had been shattered by the police bullets, to a nearby private hospital where he eventually died.

When Sunday Tribune visited the scene of the incident, a traffic policeman was seen towing the jeep away to A Division, while the two vehicles the deceased motor ran into, a Mercedes Benz with registration number Lagos BQ 759 MUS and a Volkswagen car with registration number LA 452 RP were being recovered by their owners.

Effort to get the Delta State Police Public Relations Officer, Mr. Charles Muka an Assistant Superintendent of Police, proved abortive as his phone was switched off.

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