

17roast to death in auto crash

By George Onah

PORT HARCOURT—NO fewer than 17 people were roasted, including a husband and wife, in an accident involving a Toyota 18-seater bus and a Volvo station wagon, conveying seven passengers, in Biase council area of Cross River State. The vehicles were travelling in opposite direction.

Vanguard sources said the bus, which was travelling from Calabar to Ogoja, lost control at a blind curve, along the Calabar — Ikom Highway and rammed into the car. Ten people, including the driver of the bus, were roasted, as the bus burst into flame on collision with the Volvo car. The bus was allegedly carrying a jerrican of petrol.

Another source said the bus was avoiding a herd of cattle, being shepherd by some

juvenile Fulani cattle rearers.

Also, the driver of the Volvo died along with all his passengers. It was said to have taken off from Okuku, Yala Local Government and heading for Calabar. However, A goat in the boot of the car survived the crash. Survivors of the bus were rushed to Calabar for treatment.

Some students heading to Calabar, in their quest for tertiary education were among the dead, while the couple were travelling at the instance of the bridegroom and said to be taking the goat for the solemnization of their marriage.

○ Also in Rivers State, three evangelist, travelling from Port Harcourt to Ndoni for evangelization, last week, were killed in a crash, when one of the tyres of their bus suddenly burst, while in motion. Vanguard gathered that the bus went into a summersault.