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## Thunderbolt kills student, injures others in PH Army Barracks

Written by Jimitota Onoyume  
Wednesday, 12 March 2008

A STUDENT of Army Day Secondary School in the Port Harcourt army barracks who was struck by lightening weekend has given up the ghost.

Brigade Commander of the barracks, Brigadier General Sarki Yaki Bello told the Vanguard that the student died yesterday. According to him, the lightening wreaked havoc on the primary and secondary school buildings in the barracks.

Also affected were some buildings at the mammy market and electric poles. He said the thunder later made a hurricane at the golf course in the barracks.

The Commander who was really disturbed by the death of the student said about four other students of the school landed in a state of coma that Friday the incident occurred. While several others sustained varying degree of injury.

He later drove with our reporter to some of the areas affected by storm in the primary and secondary schools and other areas within the barracks. At the schools some of the class room blocks caved in while some of the buildings still standing had their roof tops blown off.

The parameter fence of the primary and secondary school was completely brought down by the storm.

The Commander prayed that the barracks and the state should never witness that kind of storm again just as he urged Nigerians to embrace the culture of mounting thunder arresters in public and private buildings.

Vanguard gathered that the nearby Air Force base was also not spared of the damage. There were fears that about two helicopters in the hanger in the base were severely damaged. Also some houses in the officers' quarters were deroofed.

Though when contacted on phone to confirm the damage on the helicopters Spokesman of the base, Flight Lieutenant RE Obi Obasi denied it. He told the Vanguard that only some roof tops were actually blown off.

In a related development, an early morning fire yesterday gutted several stores at the New Layout market in the town area of Port Harcourt. This is about the third time the market would be on fire. It

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took the combined effort of those around and fire fighters to extinguish the inferno. But his was after severe havoc had been done.

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