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Riot as truck kills 6 women in Warri

[National News](#) Nov 27, 2009

WARRI — SIX market women were killed in the early hours of yesterday at Effurun, Delta State, by a trailer suspected to be laden with stolen crude oil, while a mob partly razed the Ebrumede Police Station in a spur-of-the-moment reaction to the unpleasant incident.

As at 9.00am yesterday, a Nigeria Army Armoured Personnel Carrier, APC, was stationed at the Ebrumede Police Station to stop further attack.

Vanguard counted at least six vehicles with their windscreens smashed at the police station while the office of the Officer-in-charge of the station was torched.



The truck which ran over a Toyota Hiace bus killing six women in it yesterday morning at DSC roundabout in Effurun. Photo by Akpokona Omafuaire.

The accident occurred around 5.00 am at the Delta Steel Company, DSC, junction, along the Ughelli-Patani Road and up till 10.00am yesterday, the section of the road leading to Warri was cordoned off by a joint team of the Federal Road Safety Commission, FRSC, army and other security agents to clean up the spilled crude oil on the road to avoid fresh accident.

The anger of the mob was that the trailer with Gombe number plate, XE 399 GME would not have sent the victims to their untimely graves if the policemen had not stopped the Toyota Hiace bus with a Lagos number plate, AA 49 FST, in which the victims were traveling, to purportedly collect a bribe.

The Police Area Commander, Warri, Assistant Commissioner of Police Shaba Alkali and the Divisional Police Officer, DPO, Ekpan Police Station, Ekpan, who also oversees the Ebrumede Police Station, Superintendent Mohammed Muazu, however, denied any complicity on the part of the police in the matter in an interview with Vanguard, yesterday, saying the tanker driver drove dangerously.

Alkali pointed out, nevertheless, that the cause of the accident was still under investigation and both officers noted that a woman was killed under a similar circumstance at the same spot, last Friday, when a truck, belonging to a brewing company rammed into the bus she was travelling in.



Road Safety Officers trying to remove corpse of six accident victims at DSC roundabout in Effurun yesterday morning. Photo by Akpokona Omafuaire.

He explained that the policemen at the station were armed when the crowd stormed the place but because they did not want to add to the number of casualties, they restrained themselves from firing at them.

The corpses of the victims were removed by men of the FRSC, led by the Unit Commander, Warri, Olusola Olusegun who led his men to the place.

Chairman of the Committee for the Defence of Human Rights, CDHR, in the state, Oghenjabor Ikimi, in his reaction condemned the "brutal killing of six innocent Nigerians who were occupants of a commercial bus at a police checkpoint by the DSC roundabout, Ebrumede,, Delta State, arising from an accident caused by policemen who were chasing tanker whose driver allegedly lost control and rammed into the bus at the said checkpoint.

"We (CDHR) make bold to state that the aforementioned actions of the said policemen is not only barbaric but reckless and we call on the Delta State Commissioner of Police, Mr. Yakubu Alkali to order the arrest and eventual prosecution of all the policemen involved in the dastardly act", he stated. Uduaghan commiserates with families of bereaved

Meantime, the State Governor, Dr. Emmanuel Uduaghan has commiserated with the families of six palm oil traders who lost their lives in the accident.

Uduaghan who frowned at the razing of a police station near the scene of the incident, vowed that those responsible for the accident and the razing of the Ebrumede Police Post would be fished out and brought to book.

The governorsaid: "My heart goes out to the families of these women who lost their lives in this most unfortunate way. I pray the good Lord to grant them the strength to bear this loss."

On the razing of the police station, the governor said: "It is erratic. People should not take laws into their hands; you cannot just come and burn a police station that was donated by a community because you are upset. It is not right and I do not think the community would be happy that the station has been burnt."



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[November 30, 2009 at 4:39 pm](#)

Ford moved the F-Series ignition switch to the steering column and incorporated a steering lock into the assembly. The hood release was moved inside the truck for security. New sound insulation and a double panel roof helped reduce interior noise levels.

2. [Hilda](#) says:
[November 29, 2009 at 1:56 pm](#)

Because of N20, them dey kill people mama and papa, God no dey sleep o.

3. [Godwin Osumiri](#) says:
[November 28, 2009 at 11:12 am](#)

We know the police and their act in this country they have sent so many people to untimely grave is not new to us. Getting razed down is away of expressing grievances but what the governor is say about that is like the bount police Post is more that the 6 lives that were lost.

4. [Steve](#) says:
[November 28, 2009 at 12:06 am](#)

The problems with our policing begins from the top. They do not put civilian lives into consideration. They are just after what they would collect at check points to meet their targets at their various stations. How can you reconcile the fact that you see the same police at the same area morning, noon and night? Don,t they run shifts? The ones you see frequently are "ogas" special. They meet the target.

You see them standing at dead ends looking not for criminals but for unsuspecting motorist. Asking for irrelevant motor document when the IG has told them to only ask for insurance and drivers licence and or road worthiness for only public transport.

What do you call those who aid and abet crime that lead to death? Thats what these police should be charged with.

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