

Multiple auto crash claims 25, injures 23 in Enugu

By Tony Edike

ENUGU TRAGEDY
A multiple auto crash reportedly claimed 25 lives and left 23 others with injuries.

The incident which occurred at Onyeama hill, on Enugu-Onitsha expressway, few kilometres from Enugu capital city at about 7.30 pm, was allegedly

caused by a trailer driver who was driving and answering phone call at the same time. The trailer was also said to have developed brake problem before descending the hill but the driver was said to have continued with his journey without minding the consequences of his action.

An eye witness said the driver of the trailer from the Northern part of the country, who did not sus-

tain injury in the crash, lost control while descending Onyeama hill and ran into four other vehicles ahead of him. The vehicles involved were two 14-seater commuter buses, a Hilux van and one Honda car.

An eyewitness said that some of the injured persons were rushed to the University of Nigeria Teaching Hospital, UNTH, Enugu, for treatment while the dead were deposited at the hospital mortuary.

Officials of the Federal Road Safety Commission, FRSC and scores of sympathizers were still carrying out rescue operations at the scene yesterday evening as they tried to pull out some of the affected vehicles from the valley.

The State Sector Commander of FRSC, Mr. Hygienus Fonsuk, confirmed that people actually died in the incident but stated that the casualty figure was not as high as 25 reported by eyewitnesses.

The FRSC boss, however, said his men would visit hospitals to ascertain the actual casualty figure even though he confirmed that seven corpses had already been discovered in some hospitals.

"Yes, there was a multiple accident that occurred Wednesday at Onyeama hill, near Enugu. But I am not sure that the death rate is as high as what is being speculated in the media," the Sector Commander said.

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and armed robbers, but expressed worries about the fact that the military intervention was for only

consultants on this technology were ready to lead implementation strategy to ensure smooth