

checkmate
vandalism.

pipeline

Lagos State Police Public
Relations Officer, Patricia

Ikorodu, while investigations
into the matter continue.

Nine die in Abia auto accident

By Anayo Okoli

U MUAHIA — NINE persons were killed in an accident, Sunday, at Ossah in Umuahia South Local Government Area of Abia State, when their bus had a head-on collision with a truck laden with fertilizer.

Several others, who sustained various degrees of injuries, were rushed to the Federal Medical Centre, Umuahia.

The victims were among the 35 passengers of a mini bus, which was conveying them back from a traditional marriage.

The accident was said to have occurred around 9p.m.,

near the Luxury Bus Terminal point on Enugu-Port Harcourt Expressroad in Umuahai.

The truck, a Man Diesel model, with number plates KUJ 824 XB, was said to be fully loaded with fertilizer and was travelling from Port Harcourt to the Northern part of the country, while the mini bus, a Mercedes Benz 608, with number plates XM 935 KJA, left Ossah in Umuahia and was heading back to Obehie in Ukwa West Local Government Area.

It was learned that the driver of the truck disappeared immediately the accident occurred, while the driver of the mini bus survived the crash.

It took men of Federal Road Safety Corps, FRSC, till yesterday morning to clear the road.

FRSC's Sector Public Education Officer of Abia State Command, Mr. Chukwuemeka Nwosu, said the agency's men had to contact Aba sector that night to come with their towing truck before they were able to clear the road of the wreckage.

He said: "We first rushed 26 persons to Federal Medical Centre for treatment before making arrangement to move the dead bodies to the mortuary.

"We were there throughout the night with the police to avoid more crashes until this morning, when we had made sure that we had cleared the wreckage from the road."