

# 2 die, 3 injured as gas explosion rocks hotel in Ogun

By James Ogunnaike

**A****BEOKUTA** — A technician and a yet-to-be-identified person were, yesterday, confirmed dead as a gas explosion rocked Conference Hotel, Abeokuta, the Ogun State capital.

The hotel, which is located on Presidential Boulevard in Abeokuta, is owned by a former governor of the state, Otunba Gbenga Daniel.

Three other persons were said to have sustained injuries in the explosion and are currently receiving treatment in a hospital.

Confirming the incident, the Hotel Facility Manager, Tunde Osinubi, in a statement in Abeokuta, said the explosion occurred as a result of a fake gas cylinder used by the technician while servicing a revolving door at the hotel.

Osinubi said: "Routine maintenance of the automatic revolving door at the entrance of the hotel reception, which involved the use of oxyacetylene gas to weld the door hinges was being carried out.

"The oxyacetylene gas cylinder exploded, killing the technician and one other person yet to be identified. The gas cylinder purchased at the open market may be fake and unable to withstand gas pressure."

Osinubi, however, expressed the sympathy of the hotel management with families and friends of the deceased, advising the general public to beware of fake gas cylinders in the market.