

Auto crashes: 3 policemen, 4 others die in Niger State

....3 die, 12 wounded in Delta

By Wole Mosadomi & Festus Ahon

THREE Policemen and four civilians reportedly died in a ghastly motor accident along Minna - Gwada road in Niger State, while three others lost their lives in another motor accident along the Ubulu-Okiti axis of the Benin-Asaba-Onitsha expressway, Delta State, Wednesday.

In the Niger State crash, it was gathered that four passengers travelling in an unregistered Volkswagen Sharon car had a head-on collision with the police vehicle.

The Policemen were said to be returning to Minna, after visiting their families in Dandaudu village, while the unregistered Sharon vehicle was travelling from Minna to Kuta.

The state Police Command's spokesman, DSP Wasiu Abiodun who confirmed the incident in a statement, yesterday, explained that the accident, which occurred at about 2105hrs along Gwada-Minna road, involved a FAW-VITA vehicle with plate number ME 117 AAA, driven by Inspector Ezekiel Thomas attached to the Command and an unregistered Sharon vehicle driven by one Awaisu Suleiman of Kuta.

He said, "Unfortunately, at a point around Gadan-Yan-Biu, which is very close to Minna, the two vehicles had a head-on collision due to suspected excessive speed and as a result, the three policemen in the FAW-VITA vehicle and four others from the Sharon lost their lives, including drivers of both vehicles."

The PPRO, however, dismissed reports in social media insinuating that the deceased Police officers were drunk at the time of the accident.

"It is very important to state the facts to clear the air contrary to misinformation in some social media and some online publications.

"The Policemen were not drunk because, from our investigation, the accident was due to a head-on collision due to suspected overspeeding," the PPRO explained.