

Road accident spawns Paris suburb riots

by UPI

PARIS -- Riots broke out in north-suburban Paris after two teenagers on a stolen motorcycle hit a police car head-on and were killed, European media reported Monday. Police in Villiers-le-Bel called for reinforcements after the accident Sunday and denied there had been a chase involved, Euronews.net reported. Soon after the crash, youths set fire to the town's police station and, in neighboring Arnouville, the police station also came under siege, a BBC correspondent reported. The rolling violence injured at least 21 police officers and firefighters, reports said. Riot police were deployed as youths set fire to cars, a train station and shops to protest the deaths of the 15- and 16-year-olds, French media said. In November 2005, a similar wave of violence swept the northeastern Paris suburb of Clichy-Sous-Bois when two African-born teenagers were electrocuted in a utility sub-station while apparently fleeing police, Euronews.net said.

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