

# Two held for allegedly raising false alarm to rob, lynch victim

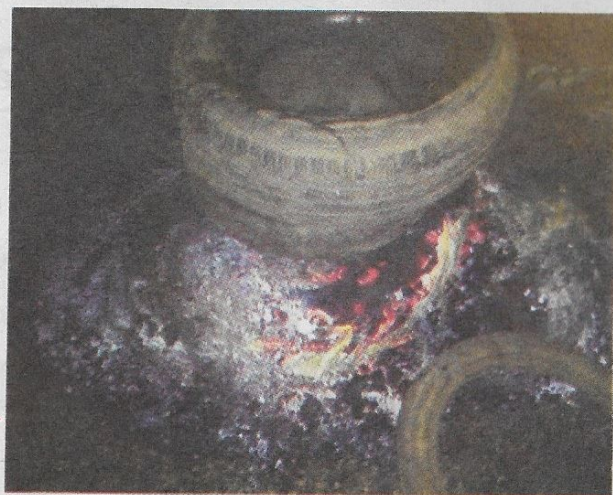
By Odita Sunday

TWO suspects are presently cooling their heels at the homicide section of the State Criminal Intelligence Investigation Department (SCIID) for allegedly branding a man an armed robber and eventually burning him to death.

It was gathered that the suspects had raised the alarm alleging that the victim, who is now late, was an armed robber. A police source, who pleaded anonymity at the SCIID said the suspects had intentionally raised the false alarm so that they can dispossess him of his belongings.

"Their victim was, however, burnt to death as the people gathered thinking they had caught an armed robber. When the suspects were brought to the police station at 2:30a.m. on Monday, they gave their statement on how the incident happened but did not disclose that it was a false alarm.

"It was when their belongings were being returned to them that the policemen noticed that one of the suspects was



quick in claiming two mobile phones and a wrist-watch. The policemen then insisted that he check the

phone properly and the phone was switched on to verify his ownership of the phone.

"When the phone was switched on, a complainant at the police station quickly pointed out that the picture on the phone was a friend of his whom he had come to report as being missing. The case was then transferred to the SCIID for further investigations," he said.

One of the suspects, 34-year-old Waliy Ishola, told newsmen that he was on his way home on Monday, February 11, when he saw a minibus with four passengers parked close to him and he fled. "While I was running, I was shot at and the bullet cut through my hand. Then I ran to my friends and told them armed robbers were chasing me.

"The armed robbers later abandoned the bus, which I drove to chase them and we caught one of them with the help of the local security men around. At this time I was weak from the gunshot wounds so I saw two mobile phones on the floor, one iPhone 5 and a Nokia phone while they were beating the armed robber," he said.

The other suspect, Michael Andoh, a Ghana-

ian, said he was sitting at a junction close to Gloryland Church when the first suspect, Ishola came in a mini bus shouting that they are chasing an armed robber.

"I joined Ishola in the bus and we went after the armed robber whom he later identified and the security men around gathered to beat him. I told the people beating him to calm down but they refused and told me to shut up. They dragged the man to a warehouse while holding cutlass. I told them not to beat him and hand him over to the police but before I knew it, they brought out sticks, tyres and burnt him.

"We were then taken to the police station and our statements were taken. It was when they were returning our belongings that I was surprised that Ishola claimed the two phones. The phones were put on and it was discovered that the phones belonged to the man that was burnt to death. I didn't touch the deceased at all, the only mistake I made was joining Ishola to chase the armed robber," he said.