together. What will it cost you to give out tags? By this time in 2011, we have all received our tags."

•Fire fighters battling to put out fire from two burning fuel tankers loaded with petrol at ASCON Filling Station on Lekki

Five killed, 17 arrested, as police, hoodlums clash in Anambra

CORRESPONDENT, Awka

THERE IS no letting up on war against hoodlums in Aambra State as policemen in different locations in the state gunned down five hoodlums.

In a gun battle on Thursday at Onitsha and Eziowelle in Idemili North local government area of Anambra State, five suspected

kidnappers were killed. Over N200, 000 t fake notes, Ak-47 riffles, four AK Magazines, 117 rounds am-

munition, 30 live cartridges and a pump action gun were also recovered from them.

In a different operation, a computer science student of Chukwuemeka Odumegwu Ojukwu University (COOU), formerly Anambra State University (ANSU) (names withheld) was arrested for armed robbery.

Also, 17 other persons were arrested by the police for various offences ranging from robbery, rape, false information, diversion of goods, and murder among others.

Briefing reporters at the

office of the Special Anti Robbery Squad (SARS) at Awkuzu, Oyi Local Government Area, the State Police Commissioner Hosea Karma, said since the hoodlums had refused to adhere to advice of living the state that police would continue getting them.

One of the killed kidnap suspects was a popular musician, known as Obinna Offor.

He was said to have been in kidnapping business for a long time.

One of the suspects, Arin-

ze Onoja, was arrested and helping the command in information on the modus operandi of their gang.

The police commissioner said that what happened in the two locations should serve as a deterrent to others who had such idea of delving into crime.

According to him, "the police command is ever ready for these kind of people, Anambra state has been calm for quite a long time now without such issue of kidnapping and armed robbery and that is the way we want it here".

"There is no hiding place for these groups again; we are not going to rest in this state until all of them are flushed out".

He commended Anambra State Governor, Chief Willie Obiano, for the assistance given to the police in combating crime in the state, adding that the command would not fail him.

He said some of the armed robbery suspects arrested, had been terrorizing the state in recent times, especially along Upper Iweka and Asaba axis of Delta State.

The accused were said to have also committed the offence of stealing contrary to section 383 of the Criminal Code Law, CAP C21, Laws of Delta State 2006 and which is punishable under section 390(4)(c) of the same law.

According to the particulars of the offence, they stole about 12,000 metric tonnes of crude oil loaded in vessel-MT Akuada (a.k.a. MT Kua), valued at N384,000,000:00, in 2009, being property of the Federal Government of Nigeria and thereby committed an offence.

The third count, as particularised, indicates that the accused also stole about 4,000 metric tonnes of crude oil loaded in a vessel-MT Hope, valued at N128, 000,000, being property of the Federal Government.