

Five kidnappers, police engage in gun battle in Anambra

FIVE suspected kidnappers yesterday engaged police officers in gun duel at Abatete in Idemili North local government area of Anambra State.

The intense battle led to the death of one of the kidnappers while another one was arrested with bullet wounds.

The seriously wounded kidnapper was taken to the

- One killed, one arrested
- Victim rescued

From Nwanosike Onu,
Awka

Ogidi police station where a girl, Chidinma Oyeamalu, rescued from the gang, was handed over to her parents.

The gunfire started about 11am when the com-

bined team of vigilante group E joined forces with the police to halt the operations in an uncompleted building.

The arrested suspect, 22-year-old Ifeanyichukwu Uzor confessed that the gang had

been involved in several kidnap cases in Anambra State and beyond.

Items recovered from the suspects include one pump action gun number 8855 loaded with cartridges.

The state police public relations officer, Emeka Chukwuemeka confirmed the incident.

He said the era of kidnappers and armed rob-

bers holding Anambra residents in the juggler was over.

He added that the state police command was working round the clock to rid the state of such hoodlums.

The Commissioner of police Muhtari Ibrahim said the days of the criminals were numbered since they had refused to heed the voice of reason.

He said: "This is the 6th day when over 17 of their colleagues were paraded by the police in Awka and that singular action has refused to touch others. We are ready for them."