

# Police kill 4 suspected robbers, arrest 26 others

THE Abia state police command has killed four robbery suspects and arrested 26 others, including a pastor. The state Commissioner of Police, Mr. Samson Wudah, told newsmen in Umuahia that the operation was carried out on September 30, as part of efforts to rid the state of violent crimes. He noted that there had been an upsurge in crimes in the state when he assumed office on August 4, but that the situation had improved considerably. Wudah attributed the achievements made so far to the commitment of the command and the support of the public. He explained that the robbery suspects were killed in a gun battle and that their bodies had been deposited at the mortuary of Abia state University Teaching Hospital, Aba. The commissioner explained that those who were killed belonged to a gang based in Isiala Ngwa North local government, who had terrorised travellers along the Umuahia/Port Harcourt expressway. He said the police recovered guns, ammunition and household items from the gang after the operation. The police, he said, also smashed another gang at Okoko-Item in Bende local government on August 8.