

and property as regards to fire outbreak.

The suspected killer

3 suspected armed robbers burnt to death in A'Ibom

INIOBONG EKPONTA - UYO

It was the end of the road for three suspected armed robbers who had been making life unbearable for residents of Mbiatok Itam in Itu Local Government Area of Akwa Ibom State as they were burnt to death by irate mob.

Nigerian Tribune

learnt that the trio, who were chased and rounded up by vigilant youths of the area, were forced into drainage and set ablaze.

According to Chief Inyang Umoh, a community leader, while speaking to the **Nigerian Tribune**, "we live in terrible fear every night because of the criminal activi-

ties of these hoodlums.

"These people are very deadly; they steal, rape and kill innocent persons. If they are caught and handed over to the police, the next minute, they would return to engage in more bloody activities."

In the same vein, Effiong Sampson, one of the local

vigilance group members in the area, added that "the era of arresting criminals and handing them over to the police is over because the police would take bribe and release them."

The state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), DSP Odiko Macdon Ogbeche, confirmed the incident, but

brought to book within the shortest possible time.

frowned on residents taking the laws into their own hands.

He urged the people to always liaise with law-enforcement agencies for the law to take its course through arrest and prosecution of suspected criminals, while denying that the police release arrested criminals.

The PPRO, who lamented the involvement of youths in criminal activities, advised young people to engage in meaningful ventures instead of taking to crimes.

"We have been advising the youths to find something and do for a living because crime does not pay. Imagine how they were burnt to death, even the parents and families do not even know where they are," Ogbeche said.

Probe on gang rape at musician's concert in Enugu

A statement by the state Police Public Relations Officer, Ebere Amarizu, said: "the state command of the Nigeria Police Force through its operatives of the Independence Layout division have commenced a full-scale investigation into the alleged conduct of some people ranging from

attempt to gang-rape a victim as well as other offences.

Amarizu stated: "One person who is already helping the operatives in their investigations has been nabbed for his alleged role in the attempt to gang-rape a victim at Michael Okpara Square axis during a mu-

sical concert by a Nigerian popular musician.

"Also nabbed were three others in relations to alleged offences of snatching and stealing of handsets during the said event. Those arrested will be made to face the music in line with various provisions and specifications of

the law after a full-scale investigation," he said.

Reports had it that many youths openly smoke marijuana during the event, notwithstanding the presence of a large number of policemen and other security operatives who were deployed in the Okpara Square.