

on Wednesday. PHOTO: NAN

Police shoot three suspected tricycle thieves, as mob sets one ablaze in Delta

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- WARRI

POLICE operatives from the B Division, Warri Area Command, in Delta State, on Tuesday night, shot three suspected thieves who were making attempt to escape with a stolen tricycle.

The incident occurred around 7:00p.m in Okumagba Estate in Warri South Local Government Area of the state.

Nigerian Tribune gathered that one of the four

suspected tricycle thieves was caught and set ablaze by angry mob.

Nigerian Tribune further gathered, on Wednesday morning, that the four suspected thieves had snatched a tricycle at Ugborikoko area at gunpoint.

A source said the suspects were headed for Okumagba Avenue when police operatives in a patrol van got a wind of the robbery and gave them a chase.

On getting to Okumagba Avenue, the robbers were

said to have met a gridlock and as a result, abandoned the tricycle and took to their heels.

Eyewitnesses told the *Nigerian Tribune* that the suspected thieves were, however, unlucky as the police operatives opened fire on them, felling three in the process.

The source said three were half-dead on the spot, while the fourth, who was allegedly fleeing with bullet wounds on his leg, was caught on by a mob who

doused him with petrol and set him ablaze.

Another account said the four-man suspected robbery gang shot sporadically into the air in an attempt to snatch the tricycle from its operator.

The account said the tricycle operator raised the alarm, thereby, attracting other tricycle operators, as well as passersby, who gave the suspects a chase.

In the melee that ensued, one of the four suspects was apprehended by the mob

those found culpable."

and set ablaze before the arrival of police operatives at the scene.

After further combing of the area, the police operatives arrested the other three suspects, who are now in detention.

A witness of the jungle justice told the *Nigerian Tribune* that the mob took laws into its hands because they felt handing him over to the police would not serve as deterrent to other criminals.

The Divisional Police Officer (DPO) of the "B" Division, SP Ebi Orubiri,