

... public house to commemorate 2019 World Sickle Cell Day, in Lagos, on Tuesday. PHOTO: NAN.

Gunmen kill five in Plateau, burn 40 houses

Isaac Shobayo | Jos

NO fewer than five persons were killed and over 40 houses burnt by gunmen in Kangboro village in Riyom Local Government Area of Plateau State on Monday.

Nigerian Tribune learnt that the hoodlums, suspected to be Fulani, invaded the village about 11:00 p.m, shooting sporadically, which resulted in the death of the five people, while setting houses, as well as farm-

lands ablaze.

It was learnt that natives initially put up resistance, but could not withstand the fire power of the hoodlums, who were allegedly armed with sophisticated weapons.

The gunmen escaped from the village through nearby hills on seeing operatives of *Operation Safe Haven*, who engaged them in a gun duel that lasted for some hours.

The Plateau State Com-

missioner of Police, Isaac Akinmoyede, who confirmed the attack, said three bodies were recovered from the scene of the incident.

He said security operatives got to the village promptly and repelled the bandits.

The police boss said: "While engaging the hoodlums, one of the operatives of *Operation Safe Haven* was killed.

"Three bodies of villagers were also discovered close to the hills, but we have com-

menced investigation into the incident, while we are on the trail of the hoodlums," he said.

2 The police boss further disclosed that the body of a young man, who was killed and buried in a shallow grave in Nasarawa Gwom in Jos North Local Government Area of the state, was also uncovered.

He said the command was taking the discovery with all seriousness because it could spark crisis within the city.