

## 2 Suspected kidnapper set ablaze in Anambra

Michael Ovat | Awka

SOME indigenes of Ogbunike community, in Oyi Local Government Area of Anambra State, on Wednesday burnt a suspected kidnapper alive, while rescuing a female victim held by the gang.

Nigerian Tribune gathered that the criminal group had operated in Ogidi, a neighbouring community in Idemili North Local Government Area, and were on their way to their hideout when indigenes blocked the road they were plying through, and arrested them.

The State Police Command's spokesperson, Toochukwu Ikenga, who confirmed this, said police operatives in the area were also alerted, but when they arrived, one of the two arrested suspects had already been set ablaze.

The PPRO said: "In the early hours of Wednesday, 3rd May, 2023, police operatives attached to Ogbunike Division responding to a distress call along St Monica College road, Ogbunike, arrested a suspect and recovered one already damaged yellow Mitsubishi L300 bus.

"The suspect was among a gang of armed robbers that attacked and robbed occupants of a residential house in Ezi-Ogidi, abducted a female victim and was en route to their den before police were alerted.

"The members of the neighbourhood had already supported the police by blocking the exit points within the area, intercepting the vehicle and apprehended two of the gang members, while others escape.

"Unfortunately, upon the arrival of the police operatives, one of the suspects had

already been set ablaze by the mob, and the criminals' operational vehicle damaged. The operatives rescued the victim, and arrested the second suspect and also impounded the vehicle."

He said the rescued kidnap victim was already receiving treatment in the hospital, while the arrested suspect was helping police with investigation.

Ikenga also quoted the state police commissioner, CP Echeng Echeng, as urging people to desist from taking the law into their own hands by resorting to jungle justice.