

Four robbers set ablaze in Bayelsa

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AGGRIEVED residents of Yenagoa, the Bayelsa State capital, have set ablaze four suspected armed robbers over the incessant cases of robbery in the state.

Three of the robbers were mobbed and burnt at the Onopa area of Yenagoa, very close to the park of the Niger Delta Development Commission's assisted mass transit vehicles on Wednesday morning.

The fourth suspect was mobbed at the Kpansia area of the state capital and set ablaze on Tuesday, while two of his gang members jumped into the nearby swamp and escaped.

The three suspects at Onopa, who were riding

commercial motorcycles, popularly called *okada*, snatched a bag from a lady moving towards the NDDC park, but she immediately raised the alarm, which attracted passers-by who chased and caught the men.

The people quickly procured petrol and set the men ablaze. Their corpses were later moved to the mortuary at the Federal Medical Centre, Yenagoa.

The suspects at Kpansia, at gun point, invaded a shop on the State Independent Electoral Commission Road, where mobile telephone handsets were sold, and made away with items worth thousands of naira.

Luck, however, ran out on them when some passers-by,

who noticed what was going on, confronted the robbers.

The deceased robber, who held a gun and was shooting sporadically into the air to scare the people, ran out of bullets, making the sympathisers to round him up.

The Police Public Relations Officer for the Bayelsa Command, Mr. Ibokette Iniobong, confirmed the burning of the four robbery suspects.

The PPRO, however, frowned on the refusal of the members of the public to hand over the apprehended robbers to the police, warning the people to avoid jungle justice.

He said such act may lead to the killing of innocent citizens.