

## Suspect

He added the suspect would soon appear in court.

# Day robbery gang met Waterloo in Anambra

FROM NGOZI UWUJARE

**S**uspected members of a gang that allegedly terrorised Anambra State have met their Waterloo recently in the hands of operatives of the Special Anti-Robbery Squad (SARS) of the state police command.

After a fierce gun duel with the police along Umuawulu village in Awka South Local Government Area, two members of the gang were shot dead.

Briefing *Crime Watch*, Assistant Inspector General (AIG), Usman Gwary, described the smashing of the gang as a major breakthrough in the effort to combat crime in the state.

Gwary alleged that the gang members were notorious kidnappers and armed robbers, who had terrorised the state for some time before they were overwhelmed by the superior fire power of the SARS operatives.

Explaining the tactics of the members of the gang, Gwary said they would first send threat text messages to their target, putting him in fear and anxiety before they would eventually abduct him.

He noted that they often used Enugu/Anambra states expressway as their operational base as they always laid ambush for

innocent members of the public on the road.

He explained that members of the gang were based in Lagos State but carried out their evil operations in Anambra.

AIG Gwary explained further that they stormed Umuawuku village when they were trailing one Chief Azubuike from Nibo Awka.

He said the four suspected kidnappers and armed robbers killed a friend of Chief Azubuike's brother, one Engr. Reuben Ikwu.

Ikwu was on a visit to Azubuike when the gang, led by Michael Nwokike, a.k.a. "See Dem," stormed the place.

Gwary explained that when information got to him, he had to call the SARS Commander, Mr. James Nwafor (CSP), and his team, who went to the scene and had a one-hour encounter with the gang during which two of the kidnappers were shot dead while two ran away with bullet wounds.

AIG Gwary said Nwokike was a notorious kidnapper, who had been declared wanted by the Anambra State Police Command.

He said he had been involved in several kidnapping and assassination cases in Anambra and other states of the federation, adding that the command had been trailing him for over two years.