

5 policemen detained over Owerri crisis

By Chidi Nkwopara

OWERRI — NO fewer than five serving policemen are now being detained for their alleged involvement in the crisis that culminated in the burning of a brand new police patrol van at Ohii Junction.

Vanguard investigations revealed that the five policemen who were allegedly on patrol duty, descended on a hapless and helpless commercial bus driver for bluntly refusing to part with the compulsory but illegal N20 roger, which the

police slammed on all commercial drivers plying the federal highways in Imo State.

Although unconfirmed sources maintained that the driver died in the process, the sad development it was further gathered, immediately incensed his fellow commercial bus drivers and scores of other sympathizers.

The people who saw the entire ugly incident as it unfolded, went in pursuit of the policemen. The policemen scampèred into the nearby bush for safety when they were com-

pletely overwhelmed by the number of the aggrieved persons around them. The mob vented their anger on the police patrol van, which the policemen abandoned at the scene", a man who spoke on grounds of strict anonymity told *Vanguard*.

When contacted on the phone, the Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP), Mr. Gandi Orubebe, told *Vanguard* that the Command has initiated departmental processes against the policemen involved in the sad episode.