

Mob sets 4 robbers ablaze in Imo

●Relations call for 'justice'

BY CHIDI NKWOPARA

OWERRI—FOUR robbers were, yesterday, burnt at Amakohia, near Owerri, while attempting to rob staff of Mary Sumner Primary School of their valuables.

Vanguard investigations revealed that the gang of about six robbers stormed the primary school, owned by the Anglican Diocese of Owerri, at about 9am.

A witness, who simply identified himself as Nkechi, said: "Six hefty boys stormed the school premises on four motorcycles and started terrorising the teachers who were mainly women.

"An alarm was raised and people rushed into the school premises. On seeing the advancing crowd, the robbers made spirited attempt to escape."

Nkechi said the people on rescue mission gave the robbers a hot chase and nabbed four of them, while two escaped. She added that they were beaten mercilessly and then set on fire.

One of the dead hoodlums was identified simply as Chinedu and the robbers were all said to be natives of Orji, Owerri North Local Government Area of the state.

Do unto others...

An interesting aspect of the macabre show was introduced when relations of the dead gangsters were heard insisting that since their relations had been killed, the runaway members of the gang must be fished out and punished as well.

Some of the people interviewed recalled that the bandits had been terrorising the area before they met their Waterloo.

All efforts made to get in

touch with the Police Public Relations Officer, PPRO, Mr.

Linus Nwaiwu, a Deputy Superintendent of Police,

DSP, at press time proved futile.

Paint merchant kidnapped in Onitsha

BY VINCENT UJUMADU

AWKA—GUNMEN, yesterday, abducted a paint merchant, Mr Uche Alado, in Onitsha. His abductors were yet to make contact with members of his family at press time.

Though Anambra State Police Command could not confirm the incident, an eyewitness said the gunmen,

numbering about five, operated in a black Sports Utility Vehicle, SUV, adding that the gang stormed the merchant's office located at Modebe Avenue, opposite St. Andrew's Anglican Church, Onitsha, and shot sporadically into the air to scare away passers-by.

The eyewitness said: "After scaring people away with the gun shots, they went into the office where the victim was hiding and dragged him out,

forced him into the boot of their SUV and zoomed off through Oguta Road in the commercial town."

The incident sent fears into residents of the city, especially with the menace of kidnappers and other violent criminal activities in the city on the increase.

Some of the residents who spoke on the issue, urged the Police to step up surveillance to check the rising crime rate in the city.

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