

community than five vandals were caught in the act. They were caught on the water with two big Cotonou boats and several jerry cans containing petroleum products and were im-

## Operatives of the NSCDC Anti-Vandals Squad

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to various astonishing to parley nobody he alleged During Division, the State P Officer, officer wh ty said in going.

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mediately arrested by the squad.

However, one of the suspects was said to have put a distress call across to some policemen who raced to the scene in an unmarked commercial bus, popularly called *danfo*, armed with guns. As *Vanguard Metro*, VM, later gathered, they were led by an unidentified inspector.

According to eye witnesses' account, the police had then queried the mission of the NSCDC squad in the area. But unimpressed by the explanation given, the inspector was alleged to have ordered his men to forcefully prevent the NSCDC team from carrying on with its mission. Tragedy was, however, averted as no life was lost as a result of the confrontation. The NSCDC team was then ordered to steer clear of the territory on the account of the claim that it was under the jurisdiction of the Nigeria Po-

purpose. In spite of this, the squad refused to set free the five suspects who are presently facing interrogations.

During VM's visit to Isawo last Wednesday, some residents called on government to take more decisive action in checking the activities of vandals in the area. A mother of two, Madam Adunni Arogundade, said she lost her husband to attacks by vandals in year 2013.

"My husband, a vulcaniser, was carrying out his duties when he was felled by stray bullets from law enforcement agents," she informed, amidst tears.

A community leader, who does not want his name in print, alleged that the vandals operate with the active connivance of uniformed men. "I don't think the government can stop the vandals because law enforcement agents also come here to collect their own share of the proceeds of vandalisation. We have sent distress calls

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