

5 kidnap suspects burnt to death in Edo

By Ozioruva Aliu

BENIN CITY—FIVE suspected kidnappers were, weekend burnt to death at Uokha along the Afuze-Uokha Road in Owan West Local Government of Edo State.

The suspects were said to have attacked and abducted some travellers, who they took into the bush but luck ran out on them as they were arrested by vigilantes who brought them out of the forest.

The locals, on sighting the criminals, took them from the vigilantes and burnt them to death.

The kidnappers took the travellers into the bush without knowing that the vigilantes who got wind of the occurrence had mobilised to arrest them.

"The kidnappers would have been contacting the families of the abducted travellers to ask for ransom if not for the bravery of the vigilantes, while locals who were fed up with the criminal activities of these kidnappers set them on fire and left to die," said an eyewitness.

Spokesman of the state police command, Kontongs Bello, confirmed the incident, saying investigation was ongoing.

He said: "After the kidnap, the vigilantes went in search of the criminals who they apprehended in the bush. As they were coming out in Uokha community on their way to the police station, angry youths in Uokha and adjoining towns took away the suspected kidnappers from the vigilantes. All efforts to get the suspects to the police proved abortive as they were burnt to death."