

# 3 suspected robbers burnt to death in Imo

By Chinonso Alozie

**O**WERRI— Three suspected armed robbers were burnt to death in Owerre Ebeiri in Orlu Local Government Area of Imo State after they were caught robbing traders in the market.

The suspects were also alleged to be members of the gang of armed robbers robbing commuters plying Owerri/Orlu road in the state.

Imo State Commissioner of Police, Abutu Yaro, who confirmed this in Owerri, yesterday, warned members of the public to desist from taking laws into their hands whenever they arrest criminal suspects, urging them to hand over such suspects to the police for lawful prosecution.

He said: "It is believed that they (suspects) were the ones that have been terrorising the community using an unmarked motorcycle to rob innocent people, especially traders along Owerri-Orlu Road, Imo State.

"The robbers were beaten, tied and set ablaze before the police patrol team arrived at the scene. Efforts made to arrest the perpetrators proved abortive as they all ran away on sighting the police patrol team."

While condemning the barbaric act, Yaro said the command has inaugurated an investigating team from the State Criminal Investigation Department on the burning of criminal suspects in Orlu and to investigate the cause and possible ways to prevent future mob actions in the state.