



Mob sets 2 PoS robbers ablaze in A'lbom

By Harris Emanuel

UYO—Nemesis, yesterday, caught up with two hoodlums, who specialised in robbing Point of Sale, POS, operators and other soft targets in the Uyo metropolis, Akwa Ibom State, as angry youths overpowered and set them ablaze.

The charred remains of the suspected thieves were still smouldering and sending thick smoke into the air, when our correspondent visited the scene at press time.

It was gathered that the incident occurred about 10:30a.m., when two robbers on motorcycle tried to overpower a PoS attendant, while dispensing cash to customers at Ikot Oku Ikono, near the newly commissioned fly-over bridge, on the outskirts of Uyo, the state capital.

An eyewitness, Nyenime Effiong, a tricycle operator, told newsmen that the suspects ran out of luck, when the alarm raised by the PoS attendant attracted youths, who pounded on them and immediately set them on fire before the arrival of Police operatives.

"They thought their operation would be swift, but it turned to be end-of-the road for them. They arrived on a motorcycle and the one on the passenger seat alighted and suddenly accosted the PoS operator with gun and demanded cash.

"She immediately screamed at the sight of gun, but in a swift reaction, some commercial mini bus and tricycle drivers with other youths trooped to the scene, chased the thieves to where they were overpowered."

Worried by the new wave of crimes hitting some soft targets as the yuletide approaches, the youths, according to Effiong Bassey, have formed vigilante groups in some crime-prone streets in the capital, including Ibiam, Atiku Abubakar, Ikpa Road, Urua Ekpa, Ikot Oku Ubo and other adjoining street.

State Police Public Relations Officer, Mr. Odiko Macdon, condemned the act, saying jungle justice has no place in criminal justice administration.