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Candidates held over defacing posters

BY BILL OKETCH

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LIRA. Seven people, including a child and an aspiring candidate for Oyam North parliamentary seat, have been arrested for allegedly defacing presidential candidate Yoweri Museveni's posters in Lira Town.

North Kyoga region police spokesperson Manshur Suwed confirmed the arrest of Mr Willy Omodo Omodo, an Independent candidate for Oyam North parliamentary seat, and Mr Ibrahim Olong, an Independent candidate in the race for Lira Municipality mayoral seat.

Mr Suwed said the duo and

five others were arrested at around 11pm at the weekend after a tip-off by NRM supporters.

He said on seeing police officers, the suspects ran and locked themselves in a nearby building which houses Radio North.

Police speak out

"They ran from where they were doing the act, and entered the building which houses Radio North. They locked themselves inside, we pleaded with them, they finally opened, when we tried to interrogate them, all of them denied," he said.

The suspects face charges of defacing of notices and

posters, contrary to Section 78 (2) of the Presidential Election Act.

Mr Suwed denied allegations that as the suspects were allegedly defacing NRM candidate's posters, there were some policemen defacing those of FDC presidential candidate Kizza Besigye.

"We have not got that because the posters that we found torn were for candidate Museveni," he said.

However, Mr Omodo Omodo denied having a hand in the act, claiming that about 40 police officers invaded Radio North where he and others were analysing the presidential debate and locked them up in the studio.