

Vigilante commander, 15 others died in recent bandit attacks in Niger – Commissioner



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Niger State government has confirmed the death of 16 people, including the Commander of Vigilante in Bagna, 13 other vigilante members, and two civilians, during the recent bandits' attacks in communities in Shiroro Local Government Area.

In a statement by the state's Commissioner for Information, Obed Nuhu Nana, the government also confirmed that 110 bandits were neutralised across several locations as they attempted to retreat under pressure from security forces.

According to Obed, 47 bandits were killed in Lantan Village in Erena Ward, 21 in Lakupe in Kwaki Ward, 16 in Luwidna in Kwaki Ward, 20 in Farin Kasa in Allawa Ward and 6 in Rafin Barden Dawaki in Kurebe Ward.

The State Government reaffirmed its commitment to restoring peace and security in Shiroro Local Government Area, disclosing that a coordinated and sustained response by the joint security team, comprising the Nigerian Army, Department of State Services (DSS), and local vigilante volunteers, has begun to yield significant results in ongoing clearance operations.

“These outcomes underscore the effectiveness and resilience of the joint operations currently underway to dismantle criminal elements and restore order in the affected communities.”

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“The Government, however, deeply regrets the loss of brave personnel and innocent lives in the course of these operations and extends its heartfelt condolences to their families and communities, acknowledging their sacrifice and courage in the face of adversity.”

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The Commissioner stated that security operations continue to intensify, advising residents to remain cautious, avoid unnecessary movement in vulnerable areas, and cooperate fully with security agencies while at the same time providing timely and credible information that can support ongoing efforts.

According to the statement, the Government assures the public that it is doing everything within its capacity to ensure the protection of lives and property, stating that additional reinforcements and strategic measures have been deployed to sustain the current momentum and prevent further attacks.

“The State Government reiterates that the situation is being closely monitored and managed, and calls for calm, unity, and collective support as the State works diligently to restore lasting peace across Shiroro Local Government Area and beyond,” the statement read.