

110 bandits killed in Niger counter offensive after Shiroro attack

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Troops of the Nigerian Army in Odonget community in Obubra Local Government Area of Cross River State over the killing of their colleagues by the residents.



By Aliyu Hamagam

No fewer than 110 bandits have been killed by Security Operatives in Niger State following a counter-offensive triggered by Tuesday's deadly invasion of Bagna community in Shiroro Local Government Area.

The Niger State Commissioner for Information and Orientation, Nuhu Nana, disclosed that the bandits were neutralised across multiple locations while attempting to retreat under sustained pressure from security operatives.

The latest development followed Tuesday's early morning attack, where heavily armed terrorists overran Bagna Community, killing scores of security personnel stationed in the troubled community.

Earlier reports indicated that over 70 persons, who comprised security operatives, residents and some of the attackers, lost their lives during the assault, leading to an intense exchange of gunfire.

Sources said about 300 bandits on motorcycles stormed the community in what was later discovered to be a reprisal attack, unleashing terror that caused widespread panic among residents.

Nana explained that a coordinated counteroffensive by the Army, Department of State Services (DSS), and local vigilante groups led to significant casualties among the fleeing bandits.

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"According to confirmed reports from security agencies, a total of 110 bandits were neutralised across several locations as they attempted to retreat under pressure from security forces.

"Breakdown of the casualties: 47 bandits were killed in Lantan Village (Erena Ward), 21 in Lakupe (Kwaki Ward), 16 in Luwidna (Kwaki Ward), 20 in Farin Kasa (Allawa Ward), and six in Rafin Barden Dawaki (Kurebe Ward)." He said.

The commissioner noted that the outcome highlights the resilience of ongoing joint security operations aimed at dismantling criminal networks in the state.

He assured residents that security operations would be intensified to prevent further attacks, urging those in vulnerable communities to remain vigilant and avoid unnecessary movement.

The state government, he added, remains committed to restoring peace and stability across the affected areas.