

# Gunmen kill 15 in Adamawa

## ...3 poker players killed in Kano

From Abdullahi Tasiu Abubakar,  
Ibrahim Abdul'Aziz (Yola) &  
Lawan Danjuma Adamu (Kano)

FIFTEEN people including a policeman have been reported killed when unidentified attackers raided and burnt four villages in Lamurde Local Government Area

of Adamawa State yesterday.

The villages are Bulkutu, Wakta, Jakute and Suwa, according to people who fled the violence and took refuge in neighbouring settlements.

Residents of the affected areas said the incident was a reprisal attack by Fulani over an earlier attack against their kinsmen by the

villagers in January.

They said the assailants, who came in large numbers, invaded the communities killing people, burning homes and destroying farm produce.

"Our entire villages were completely razed down," James Aboki, who escaped from one of the vil-

lages, said. "Adults were mostly affected."

Aboki, now taking refuge in nearby Tigno village, said domestic animals were not left out in the attack.

Helen Thompson, who also escaped the attack, said at least

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the Centre in Abuja on Saturday.

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1,000 women and children that fled the areas were taking refuge in Tigno, Lamurde and Lafia.

Daily Trust reports that the Tigno Primary School premises have been turned into a camp for survivors of the violence, with some of them sleeping under trees.

Many residents fled before the arrival of the attackers as they had heard of the impending attacks, they said.

They alleged that the authorities had been notified of the impending attacks but adequate protection was not provided.

Others, however, said that police were deployed to prevent the attack but the attackers followed bush path and surprised the police.

Authorities declined comments over the causes or the exact nature of the attack.

State Police commissioner Mark Adamu Idako, who confirmed the incident to Daily Trust by telephone, said it was difficult to ascertain the casualty figures by the time our reporter called.

"We received a distress call from the affected villages but due to the bad road leading to the areas it took our men about an hour to get to the villages," he said.

Idako said the situation was under control, and urged residents to remain calm and not to take the laws into their own hands. He added that the police were working to establish exactly who the attackers were.

On Friday, the investigation panel set up by the Adamawa State Government on reprisal attacks in

four local government areas said it found that at least 67 people were killed, 285 people displaced and property worth N1.4 billion destroyed during the incidents of violence.

The committee investigated reprisals in Numan, Lamurde, Demsa, Girei and Guyuk local government areas after violence in Mubi and Jimeta.

## 3 poker players killed in Kano

Gunmen yesterday opened fire on a group of men playing cards in Tukuntawa area of Kano, killing three and injuring five others.

The attack, which residents said was the second in as many weeks on poker joints in the area, happened around 6pm at the popular Layin Shehu Zaiti.

Witnesses said the place was packed with card players when four gunmen arrived on two

motorcycles and started shooting indiscriminately.

Daily Trust gathered that three people died immediately, while four others were taken to the Aminu Kano Teaching Hospital in critical conditions.

Kano State Police Public Relations Officer, ASP Musa Magaji Majiya, confirmed yesterday's attack but did not give casualty figures.

A similar assault on another poker game spot two weeks ago, left a teenager seriously wounded, residents said.

A resident who does not want his name mentioned said a warning letter had been sent to the playing card group before yesterday's attack. "The letter threatened them with grievous consequences should they refuse to vacate the spot as instructed," he said.

# Two killed as gunmen attack police outpost in Borno

From Yahaya Ibrahim, Maiduguri

TWO policemen were on Saturday night killed when unknown gunmen attacked a police outpost in Mafa town, headquarters of Mafa Local Government Area of Borno State.

Sources said the policemen were gunned down when about 20 men armed with sophisticated weapons stormed the area on Saturday night, firing several shots in the air, before they attacked the police station.

The assailants, our reporter gathered, drove to the area in three Volkswagen cars in an operation which lasted about an hour.

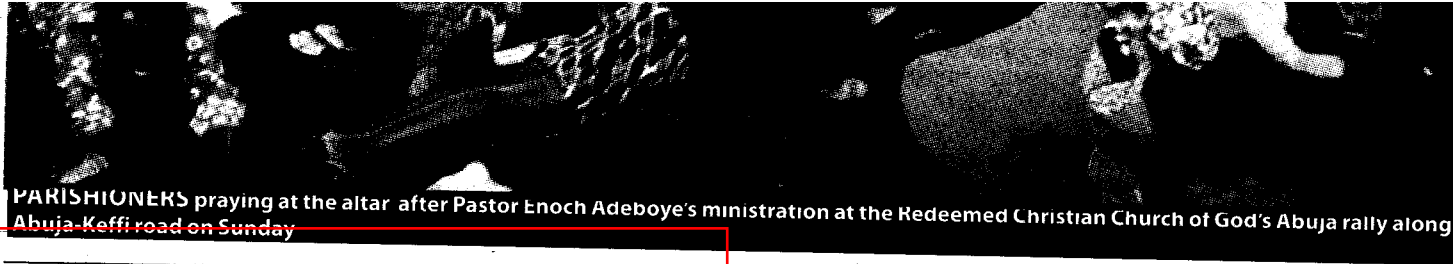
The assailants were said to have operated without any resistance as they overpowered all the policemen on duty who took to their heels after the killing of two officers.

Meanwhile, Borno police command's spokesman, ASP Samuel Tizhe, has confirmed the attack to newsmen.

The police spokesman, however, said that the assailants attempted to take away arms and ammunition without success as they were chased away by the officers on duty.

He added that during the confrontation, the security operatives chased away the hoodlums who escaped with gunshot injuries.

Tizhe however explained that police later trailed the suspects to a nearby village and arrested 13 of them.



PARISHIONERS praying at the altar after Pastor Enoch Adeboye's ministration at the Redeemed Christian Church of God's Abuja rally along Abuja-Keffi road on Sunday

## Three die in Borno road accident

From Yahaya Ibrahim, Maiduguri

THREE people, including a nurse, were at the weekend killed in a road accident along Benisheikh road about 72 kilometres from Maiduguri, the Borno State capital.

Our reporter gathered that the nurse whose name could not be ascertained was coming back to Maiduguri where he was working when the accident happened.

*Daily Trust* gathered that the nurse's car, a Toyota Carina had a head on collision with a Golf Volkswagen taxi with five passen-

gers around 4.15pm on the faitfull day.

Two people were said to have died on the spot while another person died later at the hospital where he was taken for treatment.

Witnesses said that four passengers in the taxi, also sustained various degrees of injuries and fractures and were rushed to Benisheik General Hospital by the rescue team of the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC).

Mr. Amos Yakubu Thliza of the FRSC, Borno Sector Command, confirmed the accident.

## Ali Kwara cautions govts on vigilante

From Lawan Danjuma Adamu, Kano

RENOWNED crime buster, Alhaji Ali Kwara, has called on governments at various levels to be vigilant when engaging the services of local vigilante members as securitymen, saying some of them collaborate with criminals.

Ali Kwara made the call while briefing newsmen on the successes recorded by his team in conjunction with the Kano State police command.

The hunter-turned-crime fighter said authorities should be particularly careful when recruiting herdsmen for vigilante job,

warning that "some of them have proclivity for helping criminals and triggering inter-religious crisis."

He also called for separating armed robbers from other inmates in the country's prisons, saying jailed armed robbers use the period of their incarceration to teach other inmates their evil trade.

According to Ali Kwara, his team had succeeded in nabbing seven suspected armed robbers who were fingered for series of high-profile robbery attacks in Kano and other parts of the country.

the crime.

## Soldier killed in duel with gunmen in Kaduna

From Maryam Ahmadu-Suka, Kaduna

ONE Division of the Nigerian Army has confirmed the killing of a soldier during a gun battle between soldiers and a terrorist group last Saturday night at Sabon Garin Rigasa area of Kaduna metropolis. Confirming the incident in Kaduna yesterday, the Assistant Director, Army Public Relations Officer, 1 Division, Nigerian Army, Colonel Sani Usman Kukasheka, said men of the Nigerian Army engaged a suspected terrorist group at Rigasa in gun battle, killing one member of the group while some of them escaped with bullet wounds. He said the military is still combing the area with a view to rounding up the remnants of the group who have gone into hiding in the area.