

Suspected herdsman kill 10 in Benue

From Toryila Kajo, Makurdi

MEN suspected to be Fulani herdsmen last Saturday attacked some communities in Gwer West Local Government Area of Benue State, killing about 10 persons and setting ablaze 46 houses.

A resident of the area, Dooior told our correspondent at Naka, the headquarters of Gwer West that he was working on his farm near the river when he saw herdsmen loaded in three speed boats heading towards Tyoshin area. He said while on his way to Naka town to alert the people, he saw people in some villages running for their lives that the Fulani herdsmen were already attacking farmers in Mbaagbuu District of the area.

The paramount ruler of Gwer West, Chief Daniel Ayua Abomtse told *Daily Trust* that the herdsmen entered the town from Doma area of Nasarawa State, and started shooting.

He said there was no conflict between the people of Gwer West and the herdsmen to have warranted the attack.

When contacted, the Assistant Police Public Relations Officer for the Benue State Command, ASP. Alaribe Ejike confirmed the incident, but said only five people were killed in the attack.

He said already, the state's Police Commissioner, Mr. Kakwe Katso has deployed men from the command to the area to prevent a re-occurrence.



FROM left, Emir of Ningi, Alhaji Yunusa Muhammad Danyaya, Senator Abdul Ahmed Ningi and Secretary Ningi Emirate Council, Sabo Abubakar, at the turbaning ceremony of the Madakin Ningi in Bauchi State at the weekend.

Gunmen kill police officer in Yobe

Hamisu Kabir Matazu, Damaturu

GUNMEN yesterday trailed and killed an Assistant Superintendent of Police, Adamu Oshe, in his car at Pawari quarters of Damaturu. *Daily Trust* gathered that the police officer was trailed by two gunmen riding on tricycle machine popularly called Keke NAPEP at around 5:00pm and shot him inside his car.

"They blocked him while trying to alight from his car at his house entrance, they shot him at a close range leaving him in the pool of his own blood" a resident said. A source said that residents also panicked and scamped for safety when they heard gunshots.

Shops and other businesses were also shut, the source said.

Yobe State Police Commissioner, Moses Onirepi, confirmed that an assistant superintendent of police was killed inside his car.

"Yes, the ASP attached to CID was killed in his car by unidentified gunmen," but said no arrest has been made.

Man arrested with grenades

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ing in Bayelsa State, and that he was trying to return them to authorities when he was arrested.

"They transferred him to Bayelsa. When he died, I went to Bayelsa. He was living in Isepe in one local government in Bayelsa. My late elder brother's name is Aliyu Clement," Akpavan said.

"He was serving in Bayelsa State. He came to see his family in Abuja but when he was returning, he followed village. When he got there he fell sick and he died.

"We now send signal to Bayelsa which when we reach there they couldn't get it. The signal stopped on the way. They now gave us another paper. I went there with the wife to bring his properties."

Asked what brought him to the Radio House, he said, "My mission here? I'm bringing this thing here (the weapons) because I found it in his property. When I went to go and pack the property

down to Abuja, when we reach Abuja, as we were checking the property, we now saw these grenade and the bullets."

He said after consulting with the late brother's wife, they decided that he should keep the weapons "since I'm a man and anytime I feel like, I should take them to the police."

"I'm bringing it here so that we can get his benefit for him. If I had taken it to the police, I might not get it. I am here because of the benefit I have not been paid," he added.

Chief Security Officer of the Radio House, Mr John Akindele, said the suspect was arrested at the entrance of the premises when he was noticed to be carrying a suspicious bag.

One of the policemen who arrested Akpavan told journalists that the man was intercepted at the gate of the Radio House.

"The suspect was just coming on his way to the Radio House. On

approaching the gate, we started interrogating him. We asked him about what he has in the bag and he said he wanted to make a complaint," he said, asking not to be named.

"I then said he should let me see the content of the bag but he was trying to resist. I had to grab the bag. On opening it, we now saw three live grenades and 37 live ammunition."

When the news of the arrest filtered through the Radio House, many workers there evacuated from the premises apparently fearing attacks.

Also, Attorney General of the Federation and Minister of Justice, Mohammed Bello Adoke, failed to appear for the briefing he was scheduled to give. The event has now been slated for today.

But officials said the postponement of Adoke's appearance was not because of Akpavan's arrest but because of official duties he could not finish in time for the

briefing yesterday.

Akpavan was arrested about an hour before Adoke was due to mount the podium. Already, officials of the Justice Ministry and its parastatals were at the venue, among them Solicitor General of the Federation Abdullahi Yola and Director General of the Nigerian Law School, Mamman Tahir.

Meanwhile, the police yesterday arrested another man, Abdul Salisu, who was found with suspicious items near the Force Headquarters in Abuja.

"When we searched him, no explosive was found on him but there were pieces of broken bottle, bottled water, five Automated Teller Machine cards and a vehicle number plate in the bag he was carrying," Mba told the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN).

"We have commenced investigations into the arrest but so far, there is nothing to suggest that he is a suicide bomber," he added.

Mali president beaten by protesters