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7 CATTLE RUSTLERS KILLED IN WASE

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Seven cattle rustlers were yesterday killed in Wase LGA of Plateau State when they attempted to seize some cows in a village about two kilometers from Wase town.

A youth from Wase town was also shot by security operatives when sighted with arms after resisting arrest. Sources said cattle rustlers allegedly from Tarok, Kadarko in the same area had attacked some herders on Saturday evening. The herders had then sought refuge in Wase town which led to a shootout between rustlers and youths from Wase town.

Ibrahim Audu from Wase told Daily Trust: "I think those who escaped went back to tell other members because around 7am they came back with reinforcement and there was sporadic shooting. We saw them approaching Wase town and we armed ourselves and went to repel them."

The secretary of Wase youths, Adamu Shuaibu, said the youth from Wase was shot dead by a member of the Special Task Force (STF) adding: "The STF saw two of our youths armed after we had repealed the Tarok youths so they tried to arrest them and because one of them resisted arrest, he was shot dead. The other one was arrested and taken to Jos.

"The incident almost led to a stand-off between our youths and the security operatives because the youths were angry that the security men were unable to protect the community yet they were arresting those who protect us."

The Media and Information Officer of the STF, Captain Salisu Mustapha could not be reached but the Police Public Relations Officer, Felicia Anselem, said there was shooting in Wase but could not give the casualty figure. She said security agents took over the area to prevent further attacks.

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