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FULANI, EGGON DISAGREE OVER LAFIA ATTACK



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The leadership of Fulani and Eggon ethnic groups in Nasarawa State yesterday disagreed over the Tuesday incident when an armed militia attacked a truck conveying cows from neighbouring Plateau State.

While the leadership of Fulani blamed the Ombatse, a proscribed Eggon group, an ex-leader of the group, Barrister Zachary Zamani Allumaga, alleged that Eggon people and Igbo traders were attacked earlier at Ashangwa market by Fulani people camped in the neighbouring Wamba Local Government Area.

A large number of gunmen rode into Lafia from Ashangwa in hot pursuit of a trailer conveying cows and Fulani people from the neighbouring Plateau State.

Residents said they saw a light truck conveying armed men who shot steadily at the trailer.

It was learnt that the truck beat a road block laid in front of Ashangwa market, after suspecting that some of the youths on the road carried weapons.

Soldiers were quickly alerted but the militia opened fire on sighting law enforcement personnel on their trail. Soldiers were said to have killed two of the gunmen in the process, while others escaped.

Mohammed Hussain, state secretary of the Miyetti Allah, a Fulani group, said the Fulani passengers on the truck urged the driver to speed off into Lafia, suspecting an attack from Ombatse.

But Allumaga alleged that it was Fulani mercenaries who stormed Ashangwa on the market day and unleashed mayhem on Eggon people and Igbo traders. He said the mercenaries came from Wamba.

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