


■ Suleiman Hashimu, who trekked from Lagos to Abuja to honour the victory of the President-elect, Muhammadu Buhari on a horse presented to him as gift by the Agora of Zuba, Alhaji Muhammed Bello in Zuba on Monday.

Suspected cattle rustler shot dead at Zuba

By Abubakar Sadiq Isah

A suspected rustler was shot dead last Thursday after his gang invaded a Fulani settlement near Machada village in Zuba town, a suburb of Abuja.

A witness said the incident happened around 2:12 a.m. when a gang of suspected rustlers attacked the camp.

He said the rustlers, who came from neighboring Madalla mountain, started shooting into the air, thereby scaring occupants of the camp who fled into Machada village.

He said one of the herders climbed a tree from where he shot dead one of the rustlers.

"The rustlers started shooting as they approached the camp but the brave man quietly climbed a tree from where he was watching them. When the rustlers exhausted their bullets, he opened fire and killed one of them on the spot," he explained.

The witness said with the killing, the rustlers abandoned the cows and escaped through a nearby bush.

Our reporter learnt that the herders at the camp had earlier

vowed to engage the rustlers following the invasion of the camp two weeks ago by cattle thieves who made away with N500,000.

Reacting, the village head of Machada, Alhaji Usman Mohammed, confirmed the incident, saying he received a phone call at about 2:32 a.m. that suspected rustlers had invaded the Fulani camp.

He said when he got the information, he quickly informed the police at the Zuba divisional headquarters and they went to the camp to remove the corpse.

The monarch, who expressed

shock over the incident, said the sporadic gunshots by the rustlers almost threw the entire residents of the community into pandemonium.

Effort to get the reaction of the Zuba Divisional Police Officer (DPO), Mr. Femi Adelegan, was not successful but a police officer at the division confirmed the incident.

He said the police visited the scene to remove the remains of the dead suspected rustler and deposited it at the University of Abuja Teaching Hospital in Gwagwalada, while investigation is ongoing on the matter.