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8 arrested over Irigwe, Fulani unrest

By Lami Sadiq & Dickson S. Adama, Jos | Publish Date: Oct 13 2017 2:00AM

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Operation Safe Haven (OPSH), the multi-security taskforce maintaining law and order in Plateau, southern Kaduna and parts of Bauchi state yesterday said it arrested eight people with locally fabricated guns following an altercation between Irigwe and Fulani communities in Bassa Local Government Area of Plateau State.

The taskforce Media and Information Officer, Captain Adam Umar told Daily Trust on phone that trouble started on Tuesday when two

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cows were killed by unknown persons. Captain Umar said, "While we were investigating the incident, an Irigwe boy was found dead the next day. The killing prompted Irigwe women and youths to demonstrate and some of them attempted to launch a reprisal attack on some Fulani settlement."

He said when the taskforce was alerted, security men were deployed to the area to calm nerves, "but some of the youths were angry that we stopped them, so they sneaked back to destroy our sector 6 checkpoints."

The media officer said the Irigwe were complaining that the herders often allowed their cattle graze in their farmlands but stressed that OPSH Commander, Major General Anthony Atolagbe had visited the area to calm the people down. "Our men are currently dominating the area and cordon and search is going on," he said.

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