

Gunmen kill 3 policemen, 2 civilians in Benue

From Hope Abah Emmanuel, Makurdi

Gunmen Thursday morning shot dead five people, including three policemen, in an attack on the residence of Alfred Avalumun Atera, Chairman of Katsina-Ala Local Government Area in Benue State.

Daily Trust gathered that several others were wounded during the attack, which happened at about 11:30 am in Kastina-Ala town.

Witnesses said the incident caused pandemonium in the rural town, which had been under siege by gunmen for nearly five years before a

military special squad was drafted to the area to restore sanity.

Information Officer of the Council, Tertsea Benga, told our correspondent on the telephone that people were trooping into his Atera's residence for Christmas largesse when the gunmen

struck and shot dead the policemen and two other civilians, one of them a gateman at the house.

Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO) in the state, DSP Catherine Anene, confirmed the incident and said that investigation had commenced.

Anene said more police personnel had been deployed to the area to prevent further breakdown of law and order.

Meanwhile, the State Governor, Samuel Ortom, has condemned the attack, saying it was unacceptable. He urged security operatives to bring the perpetrators to justice.

B/Haram attacks Adamawa's Garkida

