

# 15 die in fresh attack on Benue community

From Hope Abah

**A**t least 15 people have been reported killed in an attack by armed invaders on some villages in Logo Local Government Area of Benue State.

Locals in a telephone conversation with our correspondent alleged that the first strike by the infiltrators happened on Wednesday while a simultaneous one was carried out in the early hours of Thursday in about five communities in the area.

A villager, who did not want to be identified, said the armed invaders unleashed terror on Anyiin town, the headquarters of Logo LGA, in an operation that started about 6:30pm on Wednesday and left 15 people dead by Thursday morning with some sustaining varying degrees of injury while others were missing.

The villagers stated that the attackers came in large numbers and were heavily armed.

"They caught residents unawares, surrounded the town and shot sporadically in the air. As people scamped for safety, they ran into the attackers' well-

orchestrated ambush," a witness added.

Chief Joseph Anawah, a community leader in the area, said among those killed were Orihundu Ati, a retired primary school supervisor; the son of Mbawuave Kindred Head, Zaki Mbatern; the son of Tordoo Suswam, a former Chief of Staff to a previous Logo LGC

Chairman; and the son of Uyange Chembe, younger brother of the late Ukemberagya District Head, Zaki John Chembe.

Anawah urged the federal and state governments to work together to revive the abandoned Mobile Police Barracks project near Anyiin along the Akwana-Anyiin-Wukari

road to enhance security in the area.

He also called on representatives of the affected communities at the state and national levels to take action and strengthen security in the Gaambe-Tiev communities so that farmers could safely access their fields during the harvest season.

The community leader explained that Gaambe-Tiev, located on the Benue-Taraba border, was vulnerable to frequent armed invasions, noting that this was the second attack in a month, after the October 9, 2024 incident in Ayilamo town, the headquarters of Tombo Council Ward.

The Police Public

Relations Officer (PPRO), SP Catherine Anene, confirmed the latest attack but stated that details were not yet available.

"The attack in Anyiin is confirmed but no details at the moment. More information will be communicated to you as I receive it, please," Anene said.

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