

5 soldiers, 10 villagers killed in Zamfara

In another incident, bandits on Monday ambushed a convoy along the Lilo-Gulubba Road in Gusau Local Government Area of Zamfara State, killing five soldiers and ten villagers who were traders on their way to the Gusau market.

Eyewitnesses said the attack occurred as troops escorted traders from Lilo village in Mada District to the state capital.

The bandits, who had reportedly laid in wait, suddenly opened fire on the convoy, sparking a fierce gun battle with the escorting troops.

“The bandits emerged from hiding and attacked our convoy. The soldiers fought back bravely in a heavy exchange of gunfire. Sadly, five soldiers and ten villagers were killed,” said a survivor who narrowly escaped.

The eyewitness, who pretended to be dead to avoid being targeted, added that the attackers eventually retreated after suffering heavy casualties.

Speaking with journalists on Wednesday, representatives of the affected communities described the ambush as a devastating blow to the area.

Mohammed Mohammed, spokesperson for the communities, confirmed the casualties and lamented the poor state of infrastructure in the state, particularly the roads, which he said made residents more vulnerable to attacks.

He appealed to local, state, and federal governments to urgently intervene by improving infrastructure, providing basic amenities, and strengthening security presence in the area.

While the identities of the slain soldiers have not yet been released, the community paid tribute to them, describing them as “gallant heroes” who gave their lives in defence of innocent civilians.

When contacted, the Army’s Media Information Officer, Captain David Adewusi, said he was not yet aware of the incident but promised to provide more details after receiving a full briefing.