

Bandits Attack Three communities, Kill One

From Njadvara Musa
(Damaturu)

BANDITS numbering about 20, on Thursday, attacked and killed one person in Abadam council area of Borno state, with sophisticated rifles and ammunition and fled across the borders with Chad and Niger. Besides killing one person in the armed attacks, pastoralists living in Abadam and Malam Fatori border communities were also robbed of 300 herds of cattle.

Lamenting on the spate

of armed banditry attacks by the Chadian and Nigerien rebels, Council Chairman of Abadam, Alhaji Hussaini Kachalla, disclosed at a press conference yesterday, in Maiduguri that security of lives and property in the Chad Basin Areas and border communities had deteriorated with the influx of foreign bandits. According to the council chief, many of the bandits wore military uniforms with sophisticated arms and ammunition. He said one resident was killed

and three farmers were injured during the attacks, which held while the victims were working on their farms.

Confirming the armed banditry attacks, the state police commissioner, Ibrahim Abdu, yesterday told *The Guardian* that the bandits were foreign rebels from Chad and Niger. "We suspect that the uniforms they wore and the sophistication of their ammunition are however traceable to some of the rebels who are fighting the Chadian and

Nigerien governments over mineral resource control" he explained.

In ensuring security in the border areas, the police according to Abdu, had deployed patrol vehicles and armed mobile policemen to comb and trail the fleeing robbers. He therefore pleaded with the council chief and the border communities to continue to cooperate with the security agents by providing useful information on the movements and hideouts of the suspecting armed bandits.