

One feared killed in Plateau attack

From Isa Abdulsalami, Jos

A LOCAL herdsman was feared killed while two are still missing following an afternoon attack on Gana Wuri Village in Riyom Local Council of Plateau State on Sunday.

Public Relations Officer (PRO) of the Special Task Force (STF) in Plateau, Lt.-Col. Kingsley Umoh, in a statement yesterday, described the attackers as "bandits" numbering about 200 and armed with automatic weapons, machetes, spears, bows and arrows.

According to the statement, the invaders also attacked surrounding villages apart from Gana Wuri.

Umoh wrote: "The bandits are suspected to be cattle rustlers from neighbouring communities in Chiwar, Karu Local Council area of Kaduna State. Several houses were torched, property looted and over a hundred cows stolen. One local herdsman was killed while two are still missing as a result of this mindless attack.

"Troops of the Special Task Force (STF) were alerted who responded promptly. The bandits were pursued; they engaged the STF in a firefight, at the end of which about 140 cows were recovered. One of the bandits sustained gunshot wounds while six others were arrested, including a woman. Those arrested have been handed over to the State Criminal Investigation Department (CID) for further investigation."