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Seven Killed In Jos Reprisal Attack

SATURDAY, 04 DECEMBER 2010 00:00 **FROM ISA ABDULSALAMI, JOS**
NEWS - NATIONAL



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Victims Get Mass Burial

THE fragile peace in [Jos, Plateau](#)

State was again shattered yesterday as seven people were killed in reprisal in Nwachukwu village in Kwal, Miango District, in Bassa Local Council of the state. The reprisal followed the killing of a [man by unknown person in Gero Village](#) of Jos South local government.

Commander of the Special Task Force (STF) on Jos crises, Brig. Gen. Hassan Umaru, who confirmed the fresh attacks to journalists yesterday, said: "The attack was carried out at about 2.23hours (about 2.23 a.m.) on Friday (yesterday) December 3, 2010 in which seven people were killed and four others sustained injuries." The fresh attack in [Bassa Local Council](#) marks the fifth of such attacks in two months.

The four people injured are currently receiving treatment at the Jos University Teaching Hospital (JUTH) while their relations have buried the dead ones in a mass grave.

"Among the seven victims are two men while the remaining five are women and children," said Navy Lt. Jerry Ayim-Odu, an Intelligence Officer with the STF.

According to Ayim-Odu, "The suspects in this fresh attack are not yet known but that will be confirmed by the police investigation. We have already handed over the investigation to the police because we know they are capable and at the end of their investigation, we will be able to know who actually carried out the attacks."

Responding to a question, he said: "Yes the attackers are suspected to be Fulanis because by the time our troops got there, they trailed the assailants, although no arrest was made because the troops did not get any of them. But while trailing them the troops found some empty cases of cartridges; they also found these daggers mostly used by the Fulanis. However, we are not sure; that is why we say we are suspecting, but the police investigation will confirm who the assailants are."

Regarding the series of attacks especially in Jos South Local and Bassa Local Councils of the state, the commander of the Special Task Force said: "We are taking note of these attacks which are worrisome but the police are on top of the situation. The investigation might be slow but the police are trying their best and we hope they will reveal who are behind these attacks at the end of it all."

Umaru further said: "What people did not understand in our operation is the difficulty we face in the operations. Plateau is very wide and has very terrible terrain, full of hills, rocks, gullies and so on. We often find it difficult to get to where these attacks are carried out."

"Due to this obvious hindrance to our operations, our troops don't always get to these points of attack until the assailants are gone. But it does not end there, we launch investigation after each of these attacks and we hope eventually we will find out the attackers. We are doing this together with the police and the police are doing everything possible in their investigation. In any case, we have deployed our troops to the areas to prevent further attacks."

As at the time of filing this report, the STF Commander was having a closed-door meeting with the Plateau State Commissioner of Police, Mr. Abdulrahman Ola Akano.

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