

Assailants kill three guards in Plateau school

From **Isa Abdulsalami**, Jos

AN overnight attack carried out by unknown assailants at the Federal School of Soil Conservation, Kuru, Jos Plateau State, yesterday claimed the lives of three security men guarding the school's staff quarters.

Plateau State Commissioner of Police, Abdulrahman Akano, confirmed the incident but said only two people were killed.

He said: "There was indeed an attack which was carried out by unknown attackers. They came in a swift manner and started shooting sporadically not into the air, but to the buildings. Their bullets hit the two men who were in the kitchen and

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they died instantly. Their bodies have been removed to Vom Christian Hospital Mortuary." But residents said three men were killed in the attack.

Akano, who said the attack took place at about 10p.m. stated that the motive of the assailants remained unknown as they varnished into thin air before the security operatives could arrive at the scene.

Although Spokesman of the

Special Task Force (STF), Captain Charles Ekeocha, confirmed the attack, he could not comment on the casualty figure and the nature of the attack.

On Thursday, February 8, at about 7.30p.m. there was an attack carried out in the same school in which five people were killed and nine people sustained various degrees of injuries.

Chief Accountant of the

school, Mr. Audu Chobe, his wife and their three-year-old daughter were all killed in their sleep during the February attack.

The assailants, who were reportedly 20 in number, also snuffed life out of the school electrician who was simply identified as Hosea and Chief Security Officer of the school, Mr. Haruna Danjuma. Danjuma's 30 cows were also rustled.

As with yesterday's attack, the police got to the scene of the February incident shortly after the marauders had left. Governor Jonah Jang had at a recent forum lamented that the recurring crises in Plateau have affected good neigh-

bourliness and drained the meagre resources of the state.

According to Jang, "we have not been able to attain the desired unity as a people which gave us the pride of place in Nigeria as a strong voice. For instance, we on our own called for a state of emergency during the previous administration. Today, it is Jang. It is the same us that are conspiring with others outside the state calling for another state of emergency."

He reminded Plateau politicians that they all have a common bond irrespective of their political affiliations, which he said was Plateau Project.