

Bandits kill two Niger Republic military officers in Katsina

From **Danjuma Michael**, Katsina

GUNMEN, suspected to be bandits, yesterday ambushed and killed two Niger Republic military officers in Jibia Local Government Area of Katsina State.

The incident allegedly occurred late Tuesday night, when the gunmen crossed over from Jibia into Niger Republic, to rustle cattle.

The military operatives, when alerted to the incident, went after the gunmen into Jibia in the hope of recovering the stolen animals.

Unfortunately, the gunmen ambushed them, leading to the death of two of the military personnel.

The gunmen also set ablaze a vehicle belonging to the military operatives, and went away with another.

Lawmaker representing the council in the State House of Assembly, Hon. Mustapha Yusuf confirmed the incident.

• Abduct eight Islamic school pupils, teacher

According to Yusuf, the gunmen "went into Niger Republic and rustled cows, and the security operatives there went after them with the intention of recovering the stolen animals.

"But they were ambushed by the gunmen and two military personnel lost their lives in the process. The bandits also went away with one of the military vehicles. "The security situation is far more than what the Niger Republic military had thought it was. They reckoned it was something they could deal with."

It was gathered that a reinforcement of military operatives were deployed from French speaking nations Tuesday night, to battle the bandits.

SIMILARLY, bandits have abducted eight pupils of an Islamic school at Sakkai community in Faskari Local



IGP Alkali

Government Area of Katsina State.

They also abducted a teacher of the school, and whisked them away to a dreaded forest in the area.

The victims were abducted Tuesday evening while conducting an evening lesson on the school premises. As of time of this report, victims' family members were yet to be contacted by their abductors.