

Riyom killings:

Death toll rises to four

From Isa Abdulsalami Ahovi, Jos

DEATH toll from the attack by gunmen, suspected to be Fulani herdsmen, in Hoss Community of Riyom Local Council, Plateau State, has risen to four.

After the attack on Tuesday, two deaths were reported. But, yesterday, reports put the death toll at four.

According to a native, Tina Pam, the two additional casualties are from the wounded. The bodies were found in a pool of blood in the early hours of yesterday.

On Wednesday, the development had prompted a massive protest by women in the local council, who blocked the road to and from Abuja. The protesting women also barricaded the Jos/Akwanga Road, thereby disrupting vehicular movement on the highway.

The women were demanding the removal of the military personnel, known as Operation Safe Haven (OPSH), from all the checkpoints in the state, for unprofessional conduct.

Leader of the protesters, who was furious when asked of her identity, said: "Don't you see the interest and biased mind the troops of OPSH have in the whole exercise? If you do not know, they are very biased; they don't like the natives.

"They have departed from the good deeds of Col. Abdulsalam, who is not from Plateau; he is from the Fulani stock, but he is very good. He does not take sides."