

Bandits kill Katsina gov's aide, others, abduct 29

From Odita Sunday, Abuja

Boko Haram commander, nine others surrender to troops

BANDITS have killed the liaison officer to Governor Umar Dikko Radda, Salisu Ango, and his first wife, and his second spouse abducted in Kankia Local Council of Katsina State.

The gunmen, in their numbers, also reportedly killed one person, injured another, and abducted 28 others at Shirgi community of Batsari council area of the state.

They were also reported to have rustled an unspecified number of domestic animals from the village during the attack.

A resident, who spoke on condition of anonymity, identified the slain person

as Amadu Suru, who was shot while trying to tether his animals.

He said the attackers invaded the village on Sunday night and raided several houses, adding that women and children were the main kidnapped victims.

"Many people were initially taken by the bandits, but eventually some of them escaped along the way as they were walking through thick farms. But by our count, 28 are still with them," he said.

3 In a separate attack earlier, the hoodlums killed the liaison officer in Kankia Local Council during an attack on Gyaza village on

Friday night.

The assailants also killed Ango's first wife and abducted his second wife.

Reports have it that the bandits raided the Gyaza community around 10 p.m., ransacking Ango's residence, where they shot him and his wife dead.

Some residents said they heard the bandits say Ango had "paid the price" for marrying the ex-wife of one of their members, despite repeated warnings.

HOWEVER, in a breakthrough in the fight against terrorism in the Lake Chad Region, a high-ranking Boko

Haram Deputy Commander, identified as 'Awana Alhaji Mele Keremi', has surrendered to the Multi-National Joint Task Force (MNJTF) in Cross Kauwa,

Keremi, who reportedly served as the right-hand man to a notorious Boko Haram commander, confessed to his involvement in numerous operations along the Monguno-Baga axis, providing valuable intelligence to the authorities.

Relatedly, MNJTF troops also welcomed Babagoni Modu and a family of eight, who managed to escape from a Boko Haram camp in Marte.