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6 Vigilantes, 28 Boko Haram Members Killed In Borno

Kareem Haruna

— June 22, 2014

Members of the Nigeria Vigilante Group (NVG) yesterday suffered a major loss as six of their members got killed during a fierce gun battle between them and members of the Boko Haram in Kwarangilam village of Chibok local government area, security sources and witnesses said.

About 25 other members of the Boko Haram sect also died during the clash. According to the spokesman for the vigilante, Muhammed Gava, the attack happened about 9am on Saturday when a gang of Boko Haram gunmen on a cattle-rustling mission pretended to be Fulani herdsmen and suddenly opened fire on the members of the VGN who were on patrol.

"When our men saw the large group of men flocking cattle near Kwarangilam, they thought they were Fulani herdsmen even as some of them suspected foul play given their large number. They never knew that some of them who were carrying guns were hiding in between the cows. They opened fire on our members and six of them got killed instantly; but our men were able to return fire and killed over 25 of them using their hunting rifles, spears and our local fortification charms," said Gava. Kwarangilam is a farming community 15km away from Chibok where about eight members of the Boko Haram were killed and others were arrested alive by members of the vigilante on May 15 during a

nocturnal attack.

The gunmen came to avenge the killing of their members last week.

Efforts to get the police authority in Maiduguri on the incident was not successful as the phone number of the police public relations officer, Mr Gideon Jubrin, could not connect when LEADERSHIP Sunday made an effort to get further confirmation.

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