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Police Arrest 5 For Killing 3 Cops In Nasarawa

Five persons were on Wednesday, arrested for allegedly killing three policemen in the recent clashes between Fulani herders and Tiv ethnic nationalities in Awe and Keana local government areas of Nasarawa state.

The state Police Commissioner, Bello Ahmed, who paraded the suspects alongside others said that it was unfortunate that these attacks were not only unleashed on innocent citizens but also on security personnel who trying to restore peace and order in the affected communities.

"For instance on 16 April 2018 there were attacks on our men while responding to distress calls in Awe and Keana LGAs which led to the loss of three police personnel on peacekeeping mission. I wish to state that five persons among those responsible for the attack on the policemen have been arrested

namely Bawa Alhaji, Aliyu Waziri, Muhammadu Auta Ruga, Sale Muhammadu and Alhaji Adamu Auta all of Dugan Auta, along Radio House Road, Keana LGA."

Ahmed said the weapons recovered from the suspects included one AK-47 rifle with 30 rounds of 7.62 mm live ammunition adding that the command had since commenced investigation and said all the perpetrators would be apprehended and prosecuted.

The police boss also paraded one Umaru Jafaru, who was arrested with an AK-47 rifle and 28 rounds of 7.62mm live ammunition, adding that, "On 17 April 2018,

177 Battalion Brigade of Guard Keffi handed over Umaru Jafaru of Awe LGA. When interrogated he confessed that he was coming back from Yelwata in Benue State after carrying out an attack."

He warned criminals and their sponsors who stock in trade inciting violence and engaging in act capable of truncating public peace and order that, "very soon, the long arm of the law will catch with them.

One of the suspects, Muhammadu Auta Ruga, denied the allegations, saying, "We were sitting inside our house this afternoon when the police stormed

in and arrested us without knowing our crime. When we reached the police headquarters they framed charges against us that we were responsible for the killings of their colleagues."

Another suspect, Alhaji Adamu, said, "I was just discharged from mission hospital in Keana when policemen surrounded our vicinity 'Ruga' and picked five of us drove us to their office for crime we don't know anything about. Surprisingly, they paraded us with weapons we don't know where they came from. At my age of over 60 years I cannot partake in any violence for now not to talk of using fire arms."