

Lakyo massacre: SSS retires Nasarawa Director

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Following alleged operational lapses, the State Security Service(SSS) last night retired Director in Nasarawa State, Mr. Haliru Musa, with immediate effect.

Musa, who was initially scheduled for dismissal, got a waiver to proceed on retirement.

The Lakyo massacre left more than 80 policemen and security operatives dead including 10 young officers of the SSS.

It was gathered that a high-scale investigation into the incident showed some operational lapses and poor surveillance by the SSS in Nasarawa State.

A top source, who spoke in confidence, said: “The probe of the attack on policemen and SSS operatives revealed that the alleged invasion of Lakyo was not properly planned. There was no far-reaching surveillance and the operation was conducted without tact.

“Even when the director took a plunge to deploy his men for the operation, there was no back up for such a risky assignment.

“The Nasarawa State SSS was also found not to have carried its headquarters in Abuja along the strategies in place for the operation.

“If it had been well coordinated, the possibility of the operation failing would have been remote. Going by the level of training exposure of the SSS operatives killed, it amounted to losing members of a vital youthful wing of the service.

“So, there were operational lapses and he director was recommended for dismissal. But following representations, the DG of SSS, Mr. Ekpenyong Ita, decided with his management to retire Musa.”

Another source added: “The operation was a bit of a consequence from political conflict in the state and the SSS director should have been more circumspect.

“One cannot deny the fact that the crisis within the CPC in Nasarawa State fueled the crisis in Lakyo which led to the mass killing of policemen and SSS operatives.”