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14 killed in Plateau cattle rustling attack

Posted by: Yusufu Aminu Idegue in News 13 hours ago

An attempt by suspected thieves to rustle a herd of cattle has led to the death of 14 persons in Barkin Ladi Local Government Area of Plateau State.

It was learnt that 30 hoodlums, suspected to be Fulani, invaded Kakuk village in Foron, with the aim of stealing over 200 cows, 30 sheep and 15 goats.

The people said 21 persons were killed in the attacks but the police said the casualty figure was 14.

The owner of the cattle, Davou Dalyop, repelled the thieves.

But the thieves reportedly returned and stole 60 cows belonging to another resident, Da Pwajok Gyang.

The thieves were said to have killed eight members of the Pwajok family before rustling the cows.

The killings provoked the vigilantes in the community, who reportedly went after the perpetrators.

The clash between the vigilantes and the suspected criminals led to the death of 13 persons.

Confirming the attack, Plateau State Commissioner for Information and Communication Abraham Yiljap said 14 people were killed and not 21.

Yiljap said: "It was purely a criminal attack by cattle rustlers with the intention to steal cows. But the youths of the village repelled the criminals and killed 10 of them.

"The youths, who challenged the criminals, also suffered casualties, as four of them were killed by the criminals."

The commissioner urged youths to remain vigilant to check the activities of criminals.

At the time of filing this report last night, the police command had not come up with the casualty figure.

The Special Task Force on Plateau Crisis, code-named Operation Safe Haven, could not be reached to speak on the incident.

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