

10 killed, village head abducted in Katsina

GUNMEN early yesterday attacked three communities in Bakori and Funtua councils of Katsina State, killing 10 residents and abducting a village head simply identified as Alhaji Umar.

A source said the gunmen first invaded Dukawa village in Bakori council, looting houses and shops, before moving to two other communities in Funtua council, where they looted more homes and shops, shot 10 persons dead and abducted Alhaji Umar.

The slain have been buried. Police spokesman Gambo Isah confirmed the incident.

Also yesterday, a lone gun-

• Eight shot dead by gunman in Imo

From Augustine Okezie,
Katsina, and Chris Njoku,
Owerri

man shot and killed eight persons in the oil-bearing community of Mmahu Egbema, headquarters of Ohaji/Egbema council of Imo State.

The gunman, said to have escaped from Imo Correctional Centre, opened fire on the residents as he emerged from the bush.

A community source said the attacker, an indigene of Egbema, had been terrorising the area since his escape from the custodial centre.

"Since he escaped from the prison he has been terrorising the entire community," he said, adding that when the community could no longer bear his atrocities they invited the security operatives to arrest him, but could not track him.

"He started killing since last week. Whenever he killed, he ran into the bush," another resident said.

Police spokesman confirmed the incident, saying, "The command is aware of it," adding that an investigation had been launched into the development.