

Arson in Benue over killing of five



- ***Protesters burn council secretariat, senator's hotel, palace, others over gunmen attacks***
- ***Police deploy men***

Youths of Naka town, Gwer West Local Government, yesterday protested against the insecurity in the community, following attacks by suspected herdsmen on Gyarawa community where five persons were killed on Tuesday night.

They set ablaze the Gwer West Local Government Secretariat in Naka.

A hotel linked to the senator Representing Benue Northwest Senatorial Zone, Chief Titus Zam, as well as the palace of the monarch of Gwer West, Chief Daniel Abomtse, some vehicles were set on fire.

The state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Kate Aneene, confirmed the protest and said the Commissioner of Police was on his way to Naka, with his tactical team .

The Nation learnt that troops deployed shot three protesters who are receiving treatment in the hospital.

Governor Hyacinth Alia condemned the burning of the secretariat, and palace.

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- Protesters set ablaze government secretariat, hotel over killings of five in Benue
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In a statement by his Chief Press Secretary, Mr Tersoo Kula, Alia also condemned the attack and murder of three members of the Civil Protection Guards at On-MbaAondo, Tsambe-Mbesev ward of Gwer-West Local Government Area.

He stated that the inhuman act, carried out by bandits, was once more, an affront to the peace and security of communities.

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“We appreciate the deep rage and frustration that has led to the anxiety at Naka, the headquarters of Gwer West, including the regrettable burning of the secretariat and palace of Ter Nagi by protesters.

“While we empathise with the sentiments of our people, we advocate restraint and foresight in funneling this anger.

“Destruction of our own worths, simply serves to frustrate the intentions of our government, which is devoted to building up peace and security in the state.

“We request security organs to intensify efforts in detecting and capturing perpetrators of this heinous atrocity. It is essential that these marauding bandits are forced to deal with the full wrath of the law.