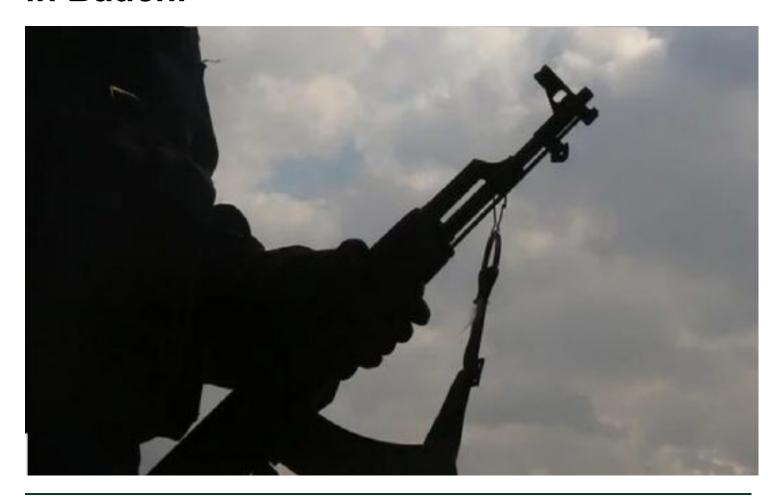
Bandits kill 11 vigilance group members in Bauchi



•CP condemns action, orders investigation

Armed men suspected to be bandits launched a deadly attack on Saturday night, killing 11 vigilante members and civilians in a coordinated assault on three villages in Gwana District, Alkaleri Local Government Area of **Bauchi State.**

The affected communities—Mansur, Digare, Sabuwar Sara, and Yalo—were attacked while residents were asleep.

Most of the victims were members of local vigilante groups from Gwana and Duguri districts, who had been safeguarding their communities from repeated attacks along the volatile borders of Gombe, Plateau, and Taraba states.

Sources reported that the heavily armed assailants, opened fire indiscriminately, catching the villages off guard in the middle of the night.

This latest attack is part of a troubling pattern of violence in the region, which has included killings, cattle rustling, and growing insecurity.

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Meanwhile, top security officials have visited the area for assessments.

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The state Police Command confirmed the incident but has yet to provide the number of those who died or injured.

Police Commissioner Sani-Omolori Aliyu, during a visit to the affected areas, described the assault as "utterly reprehensible" and a significant threat to public safety.

He ordered the deployment of tactical teams and vowed an manhunt for the attackers.

Police spokesperson Ahmed Wakil, in a statement yesterday, said the ambush occurred during a routine patrol by hunters along the Bauchi-Plateau forest corridor.

The confrontation resulted in casualties on both sides, including fleeing civilians and community defenders.