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17 vigilance group members feared killed by bandits in Niger community

Police killed 6 gunmen who attacked bank —CP

Adelowo Oladipo | Minna

EVENTEEN members of a vigilance group were on Wednesday feared killed in an ambush by gunmen suspected to be bandits at Dukku in Rijau Local Government Area of Niger State.

Nigerian Tribune gathered that the victims were responding to a distress call after bandits attacked some communities in the council area when they were ambushed.

A source told the Nigerian Tribune on phone that the bandits, numbering over 120, operated on about 40 motorcycles.

The state Commissioner for Information and Strategy, Alhaji Muhammmad Sani Idris, who confirmed the incident however, stated that the number of those killed were

yet to be ascertained.

Alhaji Idris said the state government would henceforth not be disclosing its security strategy to members of the public in order to prevent such occurrences in the future.

The commissioner said the chief of staff to the governor. Alhaji Ibrahim Balarabe, had been assigned to represent his boss to pay condolence visit to the families of the victims.

The state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), ASP Wasiu Abiodun, could not be reached for comments as of the time of filing in this report.

Meanwhile, the state Commissioner of Police, Adamu Usman, has given an update on Wednesday's attack by gunmen on a bank in Kagara in Rafi Local Government Area of the state.

According to the News of shock Agency of Nigeria (NAN), Us-

exchange of gunfire.

The police commissioner.

however, said a policeman.

a private security guard

a vigilance group mem-

ber and one resident were

killed by the armed robbers,

while a boy died as a result

Usman said the incident ocman said on Thursday while curred at about 6.30 p.m. on on an assessment visit to Ka-Wednesday, adding that the gara six of the attackers were armed robbers were forced killed by policemen during an to abandon four motorcycles as they fled.

> The police commissioner added that the gunmen were unable to gain entrance into the bank and had to abort their mission following the superior fire power of police-

5 billed in Rauchi flood