

# Gunmen storm LG chair's residence in Benue, kill 3 policemen, 2 others

## Gunmen attack checkpoint, kill 2 naval officers in Kogi

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1 GUNMEN at about 11:30 a.m. on Thursday stormed the residence of the chairman of Katsina Ala Local Government Area of Benue State, Alfred Atera, where they killed three policemen and two others.

Katsina-Ala is the headquarters of Sankera axis, where the late gang leader, Terwase Akwaza, a.k.a Gana, reigned supreme before he was killed.

2 This was just as gunmen also attacked a military checkpoint in Kogi State, where two naval personnel were killed.

3 A native of Katsina-Ala, who did not want to be

mentioned said the gunmen arrived the residence of the local government chairman when many people had gathered there to receive their Christmas gifts.

"It was about 11:30 a.m. that gunmen stormed the house where many people had gathered for their Christmas gifts, and by the time they left, three policemen and two others had been killed."

The Information Officer of the local government, Tertsea Benga, also confirmed that three policemen and two civilians were killed in his boss' residence.

Speaking to the Nigerian Tribune on telephone, Benga said, "people were trooping into the chair-

man's residence for Christmas largesse when suddenly, some gunmen struck; they killed three policemen and two other civilian, one of them was the gateman at the house."

However, the state governor, Samuel Ortom, has condemned the killings.

In a statement issued by his Chief Press Secretary, Terver Akase, the governor "describes the attack which took place at the chairman's Katsina-Ala residence as unacceptable and urges security operatives to bring the perpetrators to justice."

2 In Kogi, the gunmen, on Wednesday evening, attacked the military checkpoint in Okene Local Government Area of the state,

1 1 killing two personnel of the Nigerian Navy.

Nigerian Tribune gathered that the naval personnel were attacked at about 7:00 p.m. while resuming duty.

The gunmen, numbering seven, after arriving at the check point, were said to have open fire on the naval officers.

Chairman of the local government, Honourable Abdulmumin Muhammad, confirmed the incident in a statement issued through the office of his special adviser.

2 When contacted, the Public Relations Officer of the Navy, Aidi Simi, said "my command will get to you shortly. We are trying to take charge of the situation."