

Again, 6 miners killed in Plateau

1 Isaac Shobayo | Jos

SIX miners were killed on Thursday and two others injured in Riyom Local Government Area of Plateau State by gunmen suspected to herdsmen.

Eight people working at a mining site were killed last week when gunmen stormed the location and opened fire on the workers.

The Thursday attack at Wereng community in the council area in which six miners were killed happened at about 7.45 p.m.

A source in the community said the miners had closed

for the day and were having a stopover at Wereng community before proceeding to the next village when they came under attack.

"While they were resting, the gunmen numbering about 15, who probably have been monitoring them, appeared and began shooting at them at close range. They killed six of them on the spot. Two of the victims who only suffered gun wounds are presently receiving treatment at the Christian hospital, Vom, Jos South Local Government Area," the source said.

According to the source, the attackers also destroyed farms

and macheted some people while trying to escape after the dastardly act.

The chairman of Berom Educational and Cultural Organisation (BECO), Mr Gyang Dudu, confirmed the attack.

He said there had been warning that the community would be attacked three days before the incident.

"There was a security alert three days ago that this community would be attacked. The name of the mastermind was attached to the alert and they carried out the attack as planned. They always send messages and signals before launching attacks. But the

question is that if someone is fingered, such a person ought to have been invited and interrogated accordingly.

"But in this situation, the person whose name was linked to the attack was not invited. There was no security patrol of the area. The community was not fortified until the attack took place. These attackers are just doing as they wish and there is nobody to stop them. There is the need for justice in this country," Dudu said.

Efforts to get the reaction of the state Police Public Relations Officer, Gabriel Ubah Ogabah, proved abortive.