

Gunmen kill nine vigilante members in Bauchi

Ishola Michael | Bauchi

NINE members of a local vigilante group, popularly known as Yan Ba Beli, in Bauchi State, have been killed by gunmen during an ambush.

The vigilantes were killed in the forest of Gamji village while in search of bandits who have been terrorising communities in Ningi Local Government Area.

It was learnt that the gun-

men laid an ambush for the vigilantes and succeeded in killing nine members, while others sustained gunshot injuries.

The incident, it was gathered, occurred on Sunday, when the Yan Ba Beli vigilantes were climbing the rocks around Gamji village in search of bandits hibernating in the forest.

A member of the vigilantes who spoke on the

condition of anonymity said the bandits planned an ambush for them in the forest which they fell into.

He added that as soon they entered the ambush, the bandits opened fire on them, killing nine members and injuring others.

The source further said those killed were buried in the forest as their bodies were not taken to the village to avoid break-

down of law and order.

Caretaker chairman of Ningi council area, Ibrahim Zubairu Mato, confirmed the incident, just as he assured that the government would continue to do everything possible to protect residents of the council area.

As of the time of filing in this report, the state police command was yet to respond to enquiries made about the incident.