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Bandits invade Plateau village

By Jude Owuamanam

Tuesday, 6 Jul 2010

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One local herdsman was killed and two others were injured on Saturday as no fewer than 200 suspected bandits, alleged to be Fulani herdsmen, invaded Ganawuri Village in Riyom Local Government Area of Plateau State.

Six of the suspected bandits were arrested by men of the Military Special Task Force in Jos while one was said to have sustained injuries.

Our correspondent gathered that the bandits, said to be cattle rustlers, allegedly came from neighbouring communities in Chiwan Kauru Local Government Area of Kaduna State.

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The bandits were said to have made away with more than 200 cows, and burnt many houses, looting properties in the process.

Spokesman for the STF, Kingsley Umoh, a lieutenant colonel, who confirmed the incident in a statement in Jos, on Monday, said the incident happened at about 12.30pm on Saturday.

He said troops of the STF were alerted of the invasion and they quickly mobilised to repel the attack.

In the process, he said six of the suspected bandits were arrested while automatic machine guns, shot guns, machetes, bows and arrows were recovered from them.

Umoh said the soldiers pursued the bandits who engaged them in a serious gun battle at the end of which the soldiers were able to arrest six of them.

The STF spokesman advised residents to remain calm, assuring them that the incident was a criminal and isolated matter that had nothing to do with the crisis on the Plateau,

He advised the residents to be on the alert and contact security agents through the designated hotlines in case of any problem.

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Posted by: Olatunde sunny , on Tuesday, July 06, 2010

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