

# Cattle thieves kill six in Niger

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NO fewer than 50 Cattle rustlers, fully armed, on Monday invaded Kukoki village, a Fulani settlement in the Shiroro Local Government Area of Niger State, killing six people.

A woman and several others were said to have been injured in the attack which lasted for about four hours.

It was learnt that over 700 cattle, goats and sheep were stolen by the invaders.

An eyewitness said the rustlers arrived the settlement at about 7am and started shooting indiscriminately into the air to scare away members of the community.

An eyewitness said the operation which lasted for about four hours saw many of the villagers deserting their homes to nearby villages and the bush.

The Niger State Police Command's Public Relations Officer, Bala Elkana, who confirmed the incident, said two of the suspected rustlers had been arrested while efforts were ongoing to arrest the others.

Elkana said police presence had been increased in the community even as the Police commissioner had relocated to the affected village with some top officers.

He said the police was yet to have the figure of cattle stolen but confirmed the casualty figure.