

## Rustlers kill two, attack soldiers in Adamawa

### ...as killing of cows raises tension in Enugu

Hindi Livinus and  
Raphael Ede, Enugu

**SUSPECTED** rustlers on Sunday killed two persons in an early morning attack on Shaforo and Kudumti communities in the Numan Local Government Area of Adamawa State.

No fewer than six persons were wounded, including soldiers who tried to repel the herders in a gunfight.

The state police command, through its spokesman, DSP Suleiman Nguroje, confirmed the attack and described the attackers as cattle rustlers.

"One of the attackers was killed in the crossfire with security operatives and his corpse has been deposited at the Numan mortuary.

"The CP has dispatched additional operatives to join other security agencies to comb the bushes in the area and arrest the fleeing cattle rustlers", he said.

Meanwhile, there is tension in Enugu State between Fulani Herdsmen and Isu-Awaa community in the Awgu Local Government Area of the State following the alleged killing of three cows in the community.

Although, the community has vehemently denied killing cows belonging to the herders, the leader of

the Fulani in Enugu State, Ardo Bardo, told *The PUNCH* that Fulani leaders had taken the divisional police officers of Aghogugu and Udi to the scene where the their cows were allegedly killed.

Ardo, who is Sarkin Fulani in Enugu, spoke on Sunday in an interview with our correspondent.

He said the killing was carried out on Tuesday and expressed fear that the forest guards the state established to curtail the upsurge in kidnapping and criminal activities that engulfed the state recently might be behind the killings.

He said, "We appealed to the governor to put Fulani

people in the forest guard teams so that they will help to identify and separate herders genuinely doing their business from foreign herders or criminals. Let Fulani join them so that if they are going to hunt for kidnappers or armed robbers, Fulani herders would not be targeted.

"On Tuesday, they killed three Fulani cows at Isu-Awaa and on Thursday we found another cow dead near the place. Now, if I see you with guns, I may stay; but if it is a boy, he may run. If he starts running, they may shoot him and label him a kidnapper."

When our correspondent

visited the community on Saturday, everywhere was quiet while two mobile police officers were stationed at the entrance of the hilly community.

Speaking with our correspondent, the traditional ruler of the community, Igwe Udem Muduka, told our correspondent he had yet to receive any report about the killings.

Muduka, who spoke on the telephone, said, "It is not true; my community did not kill cows belonging to herders. The leader of Fulani is a mad man and he hasn't told me of this development."

The Police Public Relations Officer, Ebere Amaraizu, when contacted on telephone, said the command received the report of the killing and had commenced investigation.

## CAN warns of strange faces in S'East

Raphael Ede, Enugu

**T**HE South-East branch of the Christian Association of Nigeria has raised the alarm over what it called influx of strange faces into the zone.



•L-R: Members, Board of Trustees, Atlantic Hall, Chief Bimbola Bode-Thomas; Chief Morenikeji Okunowo; Lady Gheminiyi Smith; Lagos State Commissioner for Education, Mrs Folasade Adefisayo; Chairman, BoT, Atlantic Hall, Chief Taiwo Taiwo; Special Adviser to Lagos State Governor on Civic Engagement, Princess Aderemi Adebawale; and member, BoT, Atlantic Hall, Mrs Eniola Fadayomi, during a reception in honour of members of Atlantic Hall BoT on their appointments in Lagos ...on Sunday. Photo: Saheed Olugbon

## Catholic bishops lament poor living conditions