

Fleeing Niger bandits lose five members, kill four kidnap victims

Published March 16, 2021



Map of Niger State

Adebayo Ayinde

Pandemonium broke out in the Lapai Local Government Area of Niger State on Sunday as vigilantes killed five bandits during a gun duel.

The bandits, who had earlier killed four kidnapped men, it was gathered, were waiting to collect ransom and food items around Gulu village in Azza community, but the vigilantes were alerted and swung into action in Fapo and Ebbo, and overpowered the bandits.

The incident, according to a source, occurred when two persons going to pay ransom met while communicating with the bandits on the direction to follow to deliver the money.

The source said it was when the ransom bearers informed the vigilantes of their mission after they were instructed by the bandits to go back and buy them rice, bread, semovita and recharge cards.

Our correspondent gathered that the vigilantes reinforced and attacked the bandits, leading to the death of five of the bandits.

A reliable source told The PUNCH that after the gun battle that lasted over two hours, four wounded bandits were arrested.

The source, who is a resident of Gulu and spoke to our correspondent on the telephone, said on Saturday, a woman appeared in the town naked after escaping from the kidnappers during a downpour.

The source stated that the woman notified the vigilantes that she left three other women and four men, who were tied to trees, in the bandits' den, but she managed to escape when it started raining.

The woman was said to have been hosted by the Gulu district head and narrated her ordeal, which led to the vigilantes mobilising to rescue the other victims, but on getting there, the four men kidnapped had been shot dead, while the whereabouts of the women could not be ascertained.

When contacted for confirmation, the Police Public Relations Officer, ASP Wasiu Abiodun, could not be reached as his phone was switched off as of the time of filing this report.

Copyright PUNCH.

All rights reserved. This material, and other digital content on this website, may not be reproduced, published, broadcast, rewritten or redistributed in whole or in part without prior express written permission from PUNCH.

Contact: theeditor@punchng.com

DOWNLOAD THE PUNCH NEWS APP NOW ON



Receive Alerts on:



Share your story with

us: SMS: +2349090060943, Whatsapp: +2349090060943, Email:punchonline@punchng.com



KIDNAP VICTIMS

NIGER BANDITS

Recommended Stories