

One area of Ogun State.

investigating the incident.

Alagbon."

to investigate the matter.

inappropriate.

Katsina DPO killed in bandits' attack buried in Kano

Olaide Oyelude, Katsina

THE Divisional Police Officer in the Jibiya Local Government Area of Katsina State, DSP Abdullahi Rano, has been killed by suspected terrorists who invaded the Magama-Jibiya border town.

Rano was killed when he led security operatives, including troops of the Nigerian Army, to repel the terrorists, who stormed the town around 2am on Wednesday.

Residents disclosed that a soldier

was injured during the attack.

Our correspondent gathered that the terrorists arrived in the town in two buses and first attacked the house of one Haliru Mai at Magama-Jibiya. Mai's wife was later abducted.

Security operatives, made up of the police and troops of the Nigerian Army, reportedly made efforts to repel them.

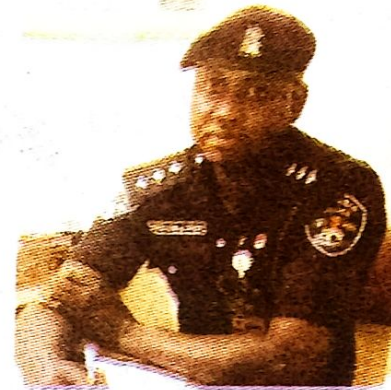
The hoodlums were said to have later headed for Matsiga community, where residents said a reinforcement of security

operatives, led by the DPO, also took them up in a gun duel during which Rano was shot and killed, while a soldier was injured.

PUNCH Metro learnt that the soldier was responding to treatment.

The deputy village head of Mazanya community in the town, Abubakar Sani, confirmed the attack.

Another opinion leader in Magama-Jibiya, who spoke on condition of anonymity, also confirmed the incident, adding



• Rano

that security personnel had started patrolling the community.

NDLEA raids Abuja garden, arrests guests for drinking cannabis tea

Solomon Odeniyi, Abuja

OPERATIVES of the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency on Tuesday raided a popular garden in the Wuse II area of the Federal Capital Territory.

No fewer than eight suspects were arrested during the operation.

The incident, it was gathered, caused apprehension among fun seekers, who scampered to safety.

An eyewitness told our correspondent that among those



• NDLEA boss, Mohammed Marwa

arrested was a foreigner.

The source said, "On Tuesday night, around 9pm, NDLEA

officials stormed a popular garden in Abuja, located at Wuse Zone II. They came in large numbers; they were everywhere. The personnel apprehended many people, including a foreigner.

"Everyone was shocked and ran for cover. We later learnt that those arrested were drug dealers."

A spokesperson for the NDLEA, Femi Babafemi, confirmed the incident, adding that investigation was ongoing.

He noted that those apprehended were involved in drugs.

Babafemi said, "Those arrested are not fun seekers. The NDLEA of today would never raid a place without credible intelligence, after which surveillance would be done.

"A total of eight persons were arrested. Some of them are dealers, while others are users.

"I make bold to tell you that all the people arrested have connections with drugs and are under investigation. Our men recovered drugs from them at that spot. They were drinking cannabis as tea."

Another resident, Nura Magama, said, "Upon their arrival around 2am, they operated for several hours until after the morning prayers. What happened was that the bandits arrived in the town in J5 and Sharon vehicles, during which the security operatives engaged them in a gun duel."

The town remained generally calm as of Wednesday evening, while sympathisers thronged the residence of the man whose wife was abducted.

Meanwhile, sources at the Katsina police headquarters disclosed that the remains of the slain DPO were taken to his hometown in Kano State for burial on Wednesday.

The Katsina State Police Public Relations Officer, SP Gambo Isah, had yet to respond to a text message on the incident, while his phones continuously rang out.

The PPRO, however, posted the picture of the late DPO on his WhatsApp status with a label, 'RIP'.

It was learnt that the police spokesman was among those who went to Kano for the burial of the late DPO.