

Terrorists kill soldiers, customs officer, kidnap 20 farmers

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BANDITS on Wednesday killed three soldiers and injured one other during an ambush on a vehicle conveying military personnel near Dolen-Kaura Village, in the Kaura-Namoda Local Government Area of Zamfara State.

A source in the community said the military personnel got intelligence information that the bandits were planning to attack Kada-Mutsa village in Zurmi LGA of the state and were on their way to foil the attack when the bandits, who also got information that the soldiers were coming, laid a siege and attacked them.

"The bandits laid an ambush and attacked the vehicle conveying the military personnel, killing



• IG, Usman Baba

three of them and injuring one," the source said.

The source identified the military team leader who was killed as Major Emos, describing him as a gallant officer.

Both the military and the state

police command have yet to issue any statement on the incident as of the time of filing this report.

In another development, a customs officer with the Strike Force of the Nigeria Customs Service, identified as Assistant Inspector Abboie, was killed on Tuesday by suspected terrorists who swooped on the service checkpoint along Katsina/Jibia highway, Katsina State.

Sources in the area said the terrorists, numbering about 40, who shot Abboie at close range around 2am, also snatched a service rifle belonging to another customs officer who was at the checkpoint.

A security officer, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said, "Abboie was shot at close range between his head and nose."

Attempts to get a reaction from the NCS Katsina Command Controller, Chedi-Dalhatu Wada, were futile, as he was said to be at an emergency meeting.

In a related development, suspected bandits in Shiwaika community, Kaduna State, killed a yet-to-be-identified farmer.

The Chairman of the Birnin-Gwari Emirate Progressive Union, Ishaq Kasai, who confirmed the incident, said the farmer was killed during a series of attacks on Tuesday and Wednesday.

He added that the bandits tied the farmer to a tree till he died and kidnapped 20 other farmers in Jangali and Kwaga, in the Birnin-Gwari Local Government Area of Kaduna State.

He also said about 10 farmers who were kidnapped on Saturday regained their freedom after parting with foodstuffs and N2.5m ransom.

He said, "Birnin-Gwari Emirate Progressive Union regrets to report that as farmers began to harvest their crops, bandits intensified their attacks and imposed levies on some farming communities in Birnin-Gwari LGA of Kaduna State.

"Another worrisome development is that the bandits informed some farming communities, including Kwaga, Kwanan-Shehu, Unguwan Liman and Unguwan Shekarau, to pay levies amounting to N12m in order for them to be allowed to continue harvesting their crops.

"These communities were given till Friday, September 30, 2022, to meet the condition failing which the bandits vowed to kidnap any person found on the farm. The union found out that these helpless communities have started making contributions based on farm sizes to meet the condition and the deadline."

The state Police Public Relations Officer, Mohammed Jalige, promised to contact the Area Commander at Birnin-Gwari and get back to our correspondent.

Jalige had yet to do so as of the time of filing this report.

21,000 litres of stolen petrol in Lagos



• The recovered fuel

Yafin creek, as the suspected vandals were about to smuggle the fuel to Benin Republic.

Sources said the vandals, who had operated in the area for a

while, took to their heels after men of the NSCDC stormed their hideout on Tuesday.

The Badagry Divisional Officer, NSCDC, Chief Superintendent Akinyemi Ayodeji, said the value of the recovered petrol was N4m.

He added that the exhibits would be transferred to the command's headquarters at Alausa for further investigations.

The NSCDC Commandant, Lagos State, Eweka Okoro, confirmed the incident in a statement by the command's Public Relations officer, Olumide Abolurin, on Thursday.

Okoro said arrests would soon be made, adding that the vandals had been identified.

nt to death in Kogi crash

Lokoja-Ankpa-Makurdi Road.

Eyewitnesses said the accident occurred when the tanker brakes failed.

The FRSC also said the two survivors of the accident sustained serious injuries.

The Corps Commander, FRSC, Kogi State, Stephen Dawulung,

who confirmed the incident, said three motorcycles were also involved in the accident.

"Our personnel, who rushed to the scene, were able to rescue two injured persons and rushed them to the General Hospital, Ankpa, for medical attention.

"They recovered eight charred bodies from the burnt vehicles and motorcycles involved in the accident.

"As it is now, we are not sure of the actual number of people in the vehicles and the motorcycles involved in this fatal and very unfortunate accident.

"We are still trying to know the actual figure, more so that the fire is still raging.

"From our findings, the bus was travelling to Makurdi, but no one knows the number of persons inside it and the park it loaded from to enable us to get the manifest for proper assessment.

"The unfortunate thing is that the tanker burst into flame, burning all the vehicles and motorcycles involved beyond recognition. Even the number plates were burnt beyond recognition," he added.

ping minor

could not penetrate her and I left her to go."

In his judgment, Justice Bamidele Omotoso said, "The offence of rape is rampant in our society. Giving the defendant an option of fine would defeat and frustrate the efforts of well-meaning people and stakeholders to curtail this menace in our society.

"Nevertheless, the court would temper justice with mercy since the convict is a first offender and breadwinner of his family as pleaded by his lawyer.

"I hereby sentence the defendant to a term of imprisonment of 10 years without option of fine."