

3 cops, scores killed as Fulani gunmen overrun 3 villages

From **Billy Graham, Abel Yola**

THREE policemen, and several other people were killed and injured in Kwahine, Gidan Dadi and Karlahi villages of Demsa Local Government Area of Adamawa State in an attack last Saturday by Fulani gunmen. The attack occurred a few hours after a government delegation led by the deputy governor delivered relief materials to the community following attacks by the Fulani militia men last August.

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The state Police Public Relations Officer, (PPRO), Othman Abubakar, said, "about 400 Fulani militia ambushed three officers, two others were missing and four rifles were also stolen."

He said, "the police killed several of the Fulani militia but they were able to leave with the corpses of their men."

The state government has condemned the attack on Kwayine, Gidan Dadi and Karlahi villages in Demsa Local Government, describing the incident as, "unfortunate, unwarranted and totally unacceptable."

A statement issued by the Commissioner for Information and Strategy, Ahmad Sajoh, said the action was capable of derailing the peace process initiated by the state government.

"Governor Muhammadu Umaru Jibrilla has directed security agencies to deploy more security personnel in the area to ensure security of lives and properties," he said.

Some residents of the three villages who spoke to journalists, said several people have been killed and their houses burnt. Residents of Kwayine,

Gidan Dadi and Karlahi decried the poor state of security and the failure of the state government to intervene.

The Deputy Governor, Martins Babale, while delivering relief materials to the Kodomun community, said the government was acting based on the recommendation of the Joshua Atiku Commission of Inquiry. The question still begging for answers is, do the recommendations only suggest sending relief materials without beefing up security?

