

Gunmen kill catholic priest in Benue

From **Rose Ejembi** Makurdi

GUNMEN suspected to be members of the slain Benue militia warlord, Terwase Akwaza, alias Gana gang, have reportedly attacked a Catholic Church at Aye-Twar Village, Agi Centre, in Katsina-Ala Local Government area of Benue State.

cluding the military and the police were alerted, and they responded immediately and mobilised to the village. They are still on the trail of the bandits as I speak to you," Chairman of

Katsina-Ala Local Government Area, Alfred Atera, confirmed, yesterday evening. Also, the Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), DSP Catherine Anene, confirmed the report and gave

the name of the deceased priest as Rev. Fr. Nguban Fanen. The body has been deposited at General Hospital Katsina-Ala, while a joint operation of Police and other security agencies are on the trail of the hoodlums," Anene said.

...Another clergy, catechist's wife, 4 others kidnapped in Kaduna

From **Noah Ebije**, Kaduna

The gunmen were said to have killed a reverend Father and injured three other parishioners during the early morning attack.

Daily Sun gathered from local dwellers that the armed bandits stormed the community and went straight to the church where they opened fire on parishioners.

"By the time the dust settled, our priest was found dead, while three others were also injured," our source, who did not want to be named, said.

"However, security agencies, in-

BANDITS in the early hours of yesterday invaded St. Pius Catholic Church Kushe Makarantan, Kagarko Local Government Area of Kaduna State and abducted a priest, Catechist's wife and four others.

The Catholic Archbishop of Kaduna, Most Reverend Matthew Man-Oso Ndagoso, confirmed the incident.

The Archbishop said the affected Reverend Father, Anthony Dawa,

was kidnapped in the church premises, while the Catechist's wife and four others were kidnapped in their houses which is around the church. Ndagoso said that the kidnappers have not yet demanded for ransom as at yesterday.

He recalled the kidnapping of one of his priests two years ago, saying that, "today makes it two years and five days that bandits abducted Rev Fr. John Bako shakolo in Ankwa. We have not heard anything from him till now, and this one has happened."

He called on the Kaduna State government to rescue the priests and others who are also still in kidnappers' den. As at the time of filing this report, the police was yet to confirm the incident.

Police rescue 8 kidnap victims, recover AK-49 rifle in Kaduna

THE Police Command in Kaduna State said it has rescued eight kidnapped victims and recovered an AK-49 rifle, in Galidamawa, Kidandan, Giwa Local Government Areas of the state.

Islamic group backs MNJ EA's anti-drum war seeks collaboration