

From **Noah Ebije** Kaduna

Death toll rises to 52 in Zangon Kataf, Kaura LGAs

GUNMEN at the weekend killed two residents in Taila village in Zangon-Kataf Local Government Area of Kaduna State.

This was even as the latest discovery of two more bodies brought the death toll from last week's Kacecere attack to 12, while that of Madamai stood at 38, in Zangon-Kataf and Kaura council areas.

Kacecere village was attacked as in reprisal for earlier attacks in Jankasa village, Zangon Kataf, and Madamai, Kaura, as reported to the Kaduna State Government by the security agencies.

A statement by Commissioner for Internal Security and Home Affairs, Samuel Aruwan, explained that: "Troops of Operation Safe Haven have reported an attack by unidentified persons at Ungwan Taila village, Zangon Kataf LGA, in which two residents were killed.

...2 more bodies recovered from last week's attack

"According to a report to the Kaduna State Government, the troops arrived the location to find that the assailants had killed two residents.

"Receiving the report, Governor Nasir El-Rufai expressed deep regret at further loss of life from such attacks in the area.

"He prayed for the repose of the souls of the deceased, and conveyed his heartfelt condolences to their families.

"In the meantime, troops will continue search-and-rescue operations in the area. Citizens will be briefed on further updates."

In a similar development, Aruwan added that: "The military has reported to the Kaduna State Government the discovery of two more bodies in Kacecere village, Zangon Kataf LGA.

"This discovery was reported by troops of Operation Safe Haven (OPSH) as they continued with search-and-rescue operations in the area, following the attack of 27th September 2021.

"It would be recalled that Kacecere village was attacked

in reprisal to earlier attacks in Jankasa village, Zangon Kataf LGA, and Madamai, Kaura LGA, as reported to the government by the security agencies. The latest discovery of two corpses brings the death toll from the Kacecere attack to 12, while that of Madamai

stands at 38. Search-and-rescue efforts are ongoing in both locations, straddling the two local government areas.

"Governor Nasir El-Rufai expressed sadness at the report and sent condolences to the families of the deceased as he prayed for the repose of their souls."

Gunmen kill businessman, burn secretariat in Nsukka

From **Felix Ikem**, Nsukka

GUNMEN suspected to be assassins have shot dead a businessman, James Innocent, at his residence in Ibagwa-Ani, Nsukka Local Government Area of Enugu State.

The incident happened in the early hours of Friday, October 1, Independence Day, which the Indigenous People of Biafra (IPOB) also declared as sit-at-home in the South East zone.

Narrating the incident to our reporter who was in company with the member representing Nsukka West Constituency in the Enugu House of Assembly, Mr. Emma Ugwuera and the Administrator, Nsukka West Development Centre, Mr. Dominic Ajibo, that paid a condolence visit to the deceased's family, a close family source who spoke under anonymity said the assailants invaded Innocent's house at about 4am and

dragged him out of his room after attempts to lure him out failed.

The source said that the gunmen, on arrival, reportedly told the deceased that some criminals were looting his provisions store, which was a few metres away from his house, but he refused to yield to their antics.

According to the source, "When he refused to open the door, his assailants released three gunshots, which shattered the Alumaco window of the room, and used dynamite to