

Bandits kill 5, kidnap 13 in Kaduna

From Sola Ojo, Abuja

FIVE persons were reportedly killed, and 13 others kidnapped when bandits terrorising parts of Kaduna State, yesterday launched attack on Afogo, Barking Pah and Kallah villages in Kajuru Local Government area of the state.

Preliminary investigation revealed that Garkuwa Alfarma; Buhari Maidiga, Uba Auta, Yakubu Thomas Gaku and Atabata Naallah, were the five people who lost their lives at different spots in the affected communities.

As of the time of filing this report, both the Kaduna State Police Command and State's Ministry for Internal Security and Home Affairs were yet to make official statement on the issue.

A community source who spoke on the condition of anonymity, said that the armed kidnappers stormed the village around 2 a.m, breaking into houses at jet speed.

According to the source, "About four persons were earlier confirmed killed, but a body was later found at Afogo.

"We learned that the security operative can help if the case is reported within the 24 hours of abduction. There is no any update yet".

Meanwhile, Deputy Director, Nigerian Army Public Relations, 1 Division, Kaduna, Lieutenant Colonel Musa Yahaya, had earlier provided the locales in the Division's franchise areas with a toll free mobile line (08000020204) to report security issues to Operation WHIRL PUNCH team for possible timely response.

According to him, "Given the security challenges in 1 Division Nigerian Army Area of Responsibility that covers Kaduna, Niger, Kano and Jigawa States, the Division has introduced a Toll-Free Line/number 08000020204 for reporting security related issues.

"This is to enable the public report emergency cases and lodge complaints with the Division for quick response.

"It is also to assist the public to send timely information on the activities of terrorists or insurgents, violent extremists, bandits and their collaborators as well as other issues of security concern that would assist the division and other security agencies in protecting lives and properties within the division's area of responsibility", Yahaya said.