

6 Suspected herders kill DPO, 2 children in renewed attack on Benue communities

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Suspected armed Fulani terrorists yesterday laid ambush on the ever-busy Makurdi-Naka Road in Benue State and killed the Divisional Police Officer (DPO) in charge of Naka, SP Mahmud Abubakar.

Naka is the headquarters of Gwer-West Local Government Area, the home of the wife of Governor Samuel Ortom.

The killing of the DPO came hours after the insurgents attacked Udei and Torkula, densely populated settlements, all in Guma Local Government Area, Governor Samuel Ortom's homestead where they reportedly sprayed bullets on farmers, killing many, including two children.

The children murdered in Guma were said to be between the ages of 13 and 15 and were a male and a female.

New Telegraph learnt that the deceased DPO had

obtained intelligence report of a planned attack by the herdsmen on Naka residents and on his way to the area, decided to stop and brief military officers on a checkpoint along the route on the impending attack.

Reports said, as the DPO decided to move ahead of the military personnel, he ran into a road block mounted by the armed terrorists at Imande community where they opened fire at him and killed him on the spot.

New Telegraph gathered that as a result of the twin attack in Guma and Gwer-West Local Government Areas, hordes of residents including women and children flee their homes to take refuge in areas considered to be safe. Many others were said to have been seriously injured in the bloody attack.

Chairman of Guma Local Government Council, Hon. Mike Uba told reporters that he was not around when the incident occurred, but said when he got wind of the attack, he sent council's secretary to visit the scenes of the attack and bring feed back to him.