

Daniel Atori,
MINNA

Banditry: Major, Captain, 10 soldiers, many vigilantes killed in Niger community

Following an ambush by bandits, 12 officers of the Nigeria Military have been killed at Kundu through Zungeru in Wushishi Local Government Area of Niger State.

Report has it that eight other soldiers were seriously injured during the gun dwell on Sunday and yesterday with the bandits.

The bandits, fully armed with sophisticated weapons were said to be numbering about 70.

Eyewitness reports that the security operatives were trying to

...as soldiers also killed 30 bandits

block the criminal's route at Kundu as they were about crossing with hundreds of rustled cattle when they ran into an ambush leading to the casualties.

The soldiers were also said to have fought the gunmen to a standstill, eliminating over 30 of them, while several others sustained gunshot injuries and are

currently hiding in the bush as the soldiers were said to have reinforced to launch another offensive against them.

The soldiers, it was gathered were ambushed by the bandits while on their way to respond to a distress call from Akare community where the bandits had gone to rustle cattle.

It was further gathered the soldiers were given wrong information as to the movement of the bandits, hence they ran into the ambush by the bandits.

According to a source close to the community, about 30 of the bandits were killed in the encounter, with their bodies left in the forest, while those that were injured were ferried away by members of their gang into the bush.

According to our source, the

bandits were completely looking different with their physic and long hairs from the ones that usually terrorise the people of the area, fueling suspicious that they maybe machineries hired to carry out the attack.

It was gathered that the bodies of the slain soldiers have been deposited at the Federal Medical Centre, Zungeru, before they were evacuated yesterday morning to an unknown destination.

As a result of the incident, civilians in Akare, Wushishi and neighboring communities have abandoned their homes and are now taking refuge in Zungeru town.

All efforts to get confirmation of the story were abortive as the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Internal Security, Alhaji Tareek Abdulrahim, did not pick

several calls put to him.

An officer at the 31 Artillery Brigade in Minna under the direction to the Director of Communication of the Nigeria Army says "We are not allowed to speak to the press, please contact Abuja."

However, one of the injured vigilante, Sani Adamu said that they had close range gun duel within less than 100 meters, but they were challenged because the criminals weapon are more sophisticated than there's hence the casualties.

Meanwhile, palpable fear has gripped the people of Wushishi, Zungeru and neighboring communities following heavy deployment of security personnel to the area to fish out the criminals responsible for the attacks as it was alleged they were stranded in the bush with their rustle cattle and their injured colleagues.

Bayelsa Assembly condemns police invasion of Opu-Nembe Community

The Bayelsa State House of Assembly, yesterday, passed a resolution under matters of urgent importance condemning last Saturday's invasion of Opu-Nembe community in Nembe Local Government Area of the state by policemen.

arrest the perpetrators.

As part of its resolution, the House called on the Bayelsa State Government to immediately set up a judicial commission of inquiry while urging the Federal Government and the state government to take appropriate measures to forestall further attacks