

Residents flee as terrorists invade Niger communities, kill 2, abduct others

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Over 1,000 motorcycle riding gangsters yesterday attacked communities in Niger State, shooting at residents, killing a vigilante and one other.

They were also said to have abducted several residents.

The attacks forced many residents, including women and children, to flee the Akere area

to Zungeru for safety.

The heavily armed hoodlums reportedly started by blocking the Minna-Kontagora Highway around Kundu around 10 am unchallenged by security forces, before crossing into the Akere area close to Zungeru in the Wushishi Local Government Area and Tegna in the Rafi LGA to unleash attacks on communities.

During the invasion, the miscreants reportedly shot dead a

vigilante and another resident, with one sustaining gunshot wounds.

However, the exact number of casualties could not be ascertained as of the time of filing this report because many residents were still hiding in bushes.

A villager, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the assailants were armed with sophisticated weapons.

The source said: "The level

of the threat is enormous, as I am talking to you now, all the residents in the area are hiding in the Zungeru bushes.

"We are appealing to the state and federal governments to come to our aid.

"I cannot tell the number of people abducted."

Police spokesman, SP Wasiu Abiodun, could not confirm the development but promised to verify the report before making a statement.