## Bandits Kill Two Villagers in Niger, Abduct over 100 Others

Laleye Dipo in Minna

Two people have been killed while over 100 others have been kidnapped from Tungan Bako and Kawo communities in the Rafi Local Government Area of Niger State.

THISDAY gathered that the armed men again struck in the two communities on Thursday night.

The incident took place when the gunmen riding on about 30

motorcycles and with AK-47 rifles stormed the town.

Those killed, according to eyewitnesses, were trying to escape from the assault by the gunmen but were caught in the crossfire.

A pregnant woman and her two children were among those kidnapped but the eyewitness said the woman was later released while her two children were taken away.

According to the report, the two communities have now been deserted, following the attack by

the gunmen.

One of the community leaders, who spoke to THISDAY on condition of anonymity, said the bandits had made contacts with some relatives of their victims, demanding a total ransom of N70 million.

THISDAY learnt that men of the Joint Security Task Force have been deployed to the troubled communities.

Efforts to get the police to confirm the incident was abortive.