

6 killed in fresh Jos violence

SIX persons were confirmed dead and several others injured when unknown assailants attacked Ruhenku, a remote village in Bassa Local Government Area of Plateau State.

"We have confirmed that six people, all of them women and children, were killed in the attack," Lt. Col. Kingsley Umoh, spokesman, Special Military Task Force, told the News Agency of Nigeria, NAN, in Jos on yesterday.

He said the three victims who were injured had been hospitalised, while many houses were also burnt.

He said: "No arrests have been made. At the moment, we have no idea who the assailants were. The distress call came one hour after the attack. The village is so remote that reaching it is a great challenge."

"There are no deployments in the area by the army, but all the security agencies are already there to prevent any escalation."

Some of the villagers described the attack as "very shocking," saying

that they were taken unawares as they were still in bed when the attackers invaded the village.

The Police Public Relations Officer, PPRO, Mr. Mohammed Lerama, who expressed disgust at the resurgence of violence, confirmed that a team of mobile police officers had been dispatched to the

village. Mr Musa Sule, Chairman of Bassa Local Government Area, described the attack as "very horrible".

He said: "It is sad that the peace loving villagers were attacked while they were asleep. It is devastating, but we hope that the security agencies will get to the root of the matter."

Saraki seeks more UN support to fight polio

By Olayinka Latona

ILORIN—KWARA State Governor and Chairman, Nigeria Governors' Forum, Dr. Olusola Saraki, has urged the United Nations to use its global goodwill to garner the requisite resources to support Nigeria in measles control and Polio eradication in the country.

This was contained in a statement by Billy Adedamola, Media Adviser to the Governor, while addressing members of the United Nations Foundation Board at Transcorp in Abuja, yes-

terday. The UN body is in Nigeria to learn first hand about the power of public private partnership in Nigeria's primary health care efforts, particularly the progress made in measles control and polio eradication.

Saraki, who spoke on behalf of the 36 governors in the country, noted that the Forum had worked tirelessly with public spirited groups and companies in the private sector to achieve significant reduction in measles and polio attacks, but that despite the progress made, much still needs to be done.