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Bandits kill army officer, 6 civilians in Katsina

By Bashir Bello

KATSINA—A senior military officer and six civilians have been reportedly killed by gunmen suspected to be bandits in Kasai village, Batsari Local Government Area of Katsina State.

The incident was said to have occurred, weekend, when the bandits invaded the village, ambushed the senior military officer of the rank of Captain and later went after the six civilians.

It was gathered that the bandits numbering 100 came out from the dreaded Rugu forest bordering the area to carry out the attack.

Governor Aminu Masari accompanied by the state Commissioner of Police, Sule Buba

and the Brigadier General of 17 Brigade of the Nigerian Army, Brigadier General Luqman, have paid a condolence visit to Kasai village in Batsari over the bandits' attack.

Briefing the governor on the attack at the palace of Magajin Kasai, the transition committee chairman of Batsari council, Alhaji Mannir Mu'azu Rumah, said that the bandits numbering over 100 attacked Kasai Village on Saturday.

Alhaji Mannir explained that the bandits first attacked the military personnel stationed in the area, killing the captain and burning down the operational Hilux vehicle.

He added that they later entered the village and visited the houses of the six civilians separately and killed them.

He said the bandits made away with several animals, motorcycles and other valuables.

Reacting, the governor called on the residents to be their brothers keepers by reporting any suspicious to security agencies.

He said government had been up and doing, which led to the posting of the joint military, police and other security personnel to keep vigil in the area.

The governor, however, asked residents to pray against a reoccurrence of the ugly incident.

During the visit, special prayers were said for the soul of the deceased.

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