

10 die in fresh herdsman attack on Benue community

By Peter Duru

MAKURDI—NO fewer than 10 persons were feared dead in a fresh attack on Tseforeleegeb, Babai council ward of Guma Local Government area of Benue State by suspected herdsmen.

However the State Police Command said it recorded five deaths in the attack.

Vanguard gathered from a source in the area that the marauders who stormed the community in a commando fashion in the late hours of Tuesday from neighbouring Nasarawa State, attacked the community shooting sporadically and killing anyone in sight.

According to the source, "the invaders also burnt down houses, huts and farmlands in the community. As we speak the people who were taken unawares are moving in droves out of the community to neighbouring villages and Daudu for fear of being killed."

Confirming the development, the Guma local government council

chairman, Mr. Anthony Shawon disclosed that the attackers came in from neighbouring Nasarawa State.

He said, "10 persons were killed in the attack and the village has been razed. My appeal is that the personnel of the military Operation Whirl Stroke, OPWS, should be drafted to Ukpiani village to create a buffer between Benue and Nasarawa state in the border area to check the attacks because that was where they came from."

Confirming the development, the Police Public Relations Officer, PPRO, Deputy Superintendent, DSP, Catherine Anene, said the Police recorded five deaths in the attack noting that security had been beefed up in the area.

On his part, Field Commander of OPWS, Major General Adeyemi Yekini, said the force was investigating the circumstances surrounding the attack.