Herders ambush, kill 2 Benue Livestock Guards

•As lightning strikes 7 cows to death in Osun

By Peter Duru & Shina Abubakar

Makurdi—Two personnel of the Benue Livestock Guards were, yesterday, reportedly ambushed and killed by suspected herdsmen in Tombo council ward, near Ayilamo in Logo Local Government Area of the state.

Vanguard gathered that the guards mettheir death after effecting the arrest of some herders, who were grazing their cattle openly, but got ambushed while conveying the cattle to a confinement facility.

According to one of the community leaders, Chief Joseph Anawa, "the incident happened between 1 pm and 2 pm.

"The livestock guards arrested two herdsmen with their cattle while grazing openly and were taking them to Ugba, headquarters of Ugba LGA.

"Two young men that were killed

by the herdsmen were lagging and were ambushed by the herdsman, who slaughtered them.

'Their corpses were then removed by the personnel of the Nigeria Security Civil Defense Corps, NSCDC, in the area between 4 pm and 5 pm and taken to Ugba.

"The corpses were, thereafter, handed over to the Police in Ugba before they were deposited at the mortuary in Ugba

"The herdsment that committed the act ran away and you know in such situation, there is bound to be tension because the guards were killed while on official duty."

Confirming the incident, Commander of the Guards, Mr Linus Zaki, said: "Yesterday (Monday) information was received that herders had brought in cattle and were openly grazing in Logo. Some of the guards moved to the said location and met some young herders with cows destroying people's farms.

Contacted, Police Public Relations Officer, DSP Catherine Anene confirmed the killings.

Lightning strikes 7 cows to death in Osun

Meanwhile, about seven cows were, yesterday, struck to death by lightning at Elepo village, Ifon Osun in Orolu Local Government area of Osun State.

It was gathered that the cattle were killed by the lightning at a cattle ranch after returning from the grazing field at the Elepo village.

One of the residents in the community, Mistura Adeleke, described the incident as a mystery.

He sympathised with the owners while urging them to burn the dead cows to avoid an outbreak of an epidemic.

He said: "It is the first time such a frightening incident would happen in this area. We have over the years been living harmoniously with Fulani in our domain.