

# News



**CONDOLENCE VISIT**—Akwa Ibom State Governor, Mr Udom Emmanuel (middle) flanked by his wife, Dr Martha Emmanuel, welcoming Bayelsa State Governor, Sen. Douye Diri, on his arrival during a funeral ceremony in honour of the first indigenous Military Governor of Akwa Ibom State, Air Commodore Idongesit Nkanga (Retd), at the deceased's country home, Ikot Nya, Nsit Ibom LGA, over the weekend

## Gunmen on rampage in Kaduna, Delta, Taraba, FCT

●Kill 20, injure many, raze houses in Kaduna, Delta attacks ●Herdsmen kidnap female farmer in Delta, She's missing — POLICE ●Kidnap Taraba NLC chairman; 4 in FCT after 3-hour operation ●How our colleague was murdered in Imo — NBA

By Jimitota Onoyume, Chinonso Alozie, Ibrahim Haasan & Ochuko Akuopha

**A**BUJA—The high level of insecurity in the country festered weekend as no fewer than 20 persons were killed by bandits, while several others were kidnapped.

① While 19 persons were killed in Bimbi-Gwari and Kajuru Local Government areas of Kaduna State, a mobile policeman was killed in Warri, Delta State, with his rifle taken away by his assailants.

Similarly, chairman of

Taraba State chapter of the Nigeria Labour Congress, Peter Jediel, was abducted by gunmen from his Sunkani residence, in the headquarters of Ardo-Kola Local Government Area, just as four persons were also kidnapped in their residences in Federal Capital Territory, FCT, after a three-hour operation.

② In the Kaduna attacks, 14 of the victims were killed by the outlaws at Kutemeshi village in Birnin-Gwari LGA on Saturday night, while five were killed in Kajuru LGA same day. Several others who sustained gunshot

wounds are currently receiving treatment in hospitals.

Kaduna State Commissioner for Internal Security and Home Affairs, Samuel Aruwan, who confirmed the attacks, listed those killed in Birnin Gwari LGA to include Malam Sani Barume, Yahaya Bello, Amadu Dan Korau, Samaila Niga, Jamilu Haruna, Lawal Majiya and Dan Malam Rabo.

Others were Dauda Kafinta, Hassan Mai Makani, Bashir Haruna, Lawal Ali, Mu'azu Haruna, Mai Unguwa Sa'adu and Harisu Bako. He said some shops were looted with

valuable items carted away by the attackers during the operation.

Aruwan, who also noted that several houses and a church were burnt and warehouses stocked with building materials looted, listed Bulus Jatau, Hanatu Emmanuel, Bitrus Tuna, Yohanna Mika, and Monday Ayuba as those killed by the bandits at Kujeni village in Kajuru LGA, while two others were injured.

Aruwan further stated that some of the injured had been moved to a neighbouring state closer to Kutemeshi for urgent medical attention, while others were in transit to an orthopaedic hospital in Kaduna.

### El-Rufai orders relief materials for affected communities

Meanwhile, Governor Nasir El-Rufai, who had been monitoring the security situation at the various locations since Saturday, has expressed sadness over the attacks.

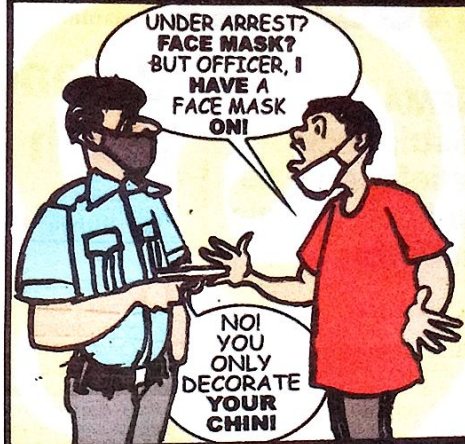
The governor, who consoled families that lost their loved ones, offered prayers for the repose of their souls and a speedy recovery for the injured.

He further directed the Kaduna State Emergency Management Agency to urgently provide relief materials to the affected communities.

### Policeman killed in Delta

③ In Warri, Delta State, gunmen weekend shot dead a policeman around NPA area and disappeared with his rifle.

## POCKET CARTOON



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Spokesman of Delta State police command, DSP Onome Onovwakpoye, who confirmed the killing, said efforts are on to arrest those behind the killing.

Vanguard gathered that the gunmen got close to the mobile policeman who was on the road-side and opened fire on him.

They went straight for his rifle after he slumped and thereafter, sped off in a waiting vehicle.

The sad incident caused panic in the area as eye-witnesses scampered for safety at the sound of gunshots.

### Herdsmen kidnap female farmer in Delta

Also in Obiaruku in Delta State, suspected herdsmen reportedly kidnapped a female farmer, Mrs. Joy Osamezu, in her farm at Ukwuani Local Government Area, Delta State.

Though the circumstances surrounding the kidnap were hazy at press time, sources said she was abducted on Saturday while working in the

farmland across River Ethiopia.

"The kidnappers are using the woman's number to call one contact in Obiaruku, speaking Hausa, so they went for who to interpret for them," a source who craved anonymity said.

Contacted, Police Public Relations Officer of the state command, Onome Onovwakpoye, said: "The person is missing. She went to farm on Saturday and she has not returned."

Meanwhile, the BOT chairman of Ukwuani Community Youth Leaders, Comrade Marcus Enudi, has lamented what he described as the continued kidnapping of Ukwuani women on their farms at Obiaruku by suspected herdsmen.

He called on the state government to station a team of "Delta Hawk" in Ukwuani Local Government Area to check the criminal activities of the herdsmen in the area.

"The continuous cases of kidnapping is overwhelming and may lead to crises in the area, if not nipped in the bud."

"Our women cannot

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By Providence Adevinka