

1 Gunmen invade Abuja community, shoot cattle merchant dead, abduct daughter

By Kingsley Omonobi -
Abuja

Gunmen suspected to be bandits, in the early hours yesterday, invaded Chitumu community near Zuba town in Gwagwalada

area council of the Federal Capital Territory (FCT), killed a cattle merchant and abducted his daughter.

Secretary to the community's village head, Muhammad Liman, who confirmed the attack, said the

gunmen, numbering about 15, arrived some minutes after 12 midnight and went straight to the house of the cattle merchant, one Isiaka Alhassan Dogara.

"They immediately abducted him with one of his

daughters named Fatima, aged 14. Some of the gunmen killed the father, Alhassan Dogara, as the wives of the abducted person raised the alarm," Liman narrated.

He further stated that three

uncles of the man who rushed to the scene sustained injuries.

Efforts to get the FCT police spokesperson, SP Josephine Adeh, to respond to the development proved abortive.

2 Soldier, scores die as Fulani, Hausa clash in Sokoto

By Ibrahim Hassan-Wuyo

There was tension in Gwadabawa, Sokoto State following a violent conflict between Fulani and Hausa residents which led to the death of many locals from both sides including a security operative.

A local official in the community, Aminu S Hausa in an interview monitored by our correspondent, yesterday, "Residents are living in fear as the conflict even claimed the life of a soldier. They are afraid of reprisal attacks from Fulani bandits."

The survivor went on: "The

Fulani attacked my relation with knives. But he has spiritual powers that would not allow sharp objects to pierce his skin. So they intensified the attack on him and succeeded in hacking his

head off his body."

Similarly, a Fulani man, who survived the violent clash, narrated his ordeal.

"I was shot twice but I survived. I begged them not to kill me. But they shot at me",

he stated.

The VOA Hausa reported that when the police in Sokoto were contacted, they said they were still waiting for details of the attack.

Scores were reportedly

killed during the conflict, while many sustained injuries.

Attacks allegedly by bandits are not new in the area as, of recent, bandits reportedly raided communities in Rabah and other locations in the North-Western state.

mishap.

The boat was said to be carrying scores of passengers and goods from Yenagoa to the Brass Island and neighbouring communities when it suddenly went under due to alleged overweight.

A statement by the Chief Press Secretary to the Governor, Daniel Alabrah, quoted Diri as deeply saddened by the fatal incident.

Bayelsa boat mishap: Death toll hits five

By Samuel Oyadongha,
Yenagoa

3 The death in Thursday's tragic boat mishap at Okoroma community along the Brass waterways in Brass Local Government Area of Bayelsa State has risen to five

This followed the recovery of three more bodies, two adults and a child, bringing

to five the number of corpses so far recovered in the aftermath of the lone boat accident.

Sources at Okpoama told our correspondent that a team searching for victims of the boat accident are still combing the creeks and waterways on the Brass Island.

"The search effort is a bit

difficult since there was no manifest to identify the number of passengers onboard the ill-fated boat.

"Some persons are still believed to be missing as the boat was carrying several passengers together with goods worth millions of naira, the source said.

Meantime, Governor Douye Diri has expressed sadness over the tragic boat