

Terrorists kill four soldiers, one civilian in Borno community

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By Isah Ojo

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Suspected Boko Haram terrorists have killed four soldiers and one civilian in a fresh attack in Askira/Uba Local Government Area of Borno State.

Our correspondent gathered that the incident occurred around 12pm on Wednesday in Mussa community.

Confirming the incident exclusively to PUNCH Online on Thursday, the Chairman of the Local Government, Mada Saidu, said the civilian casualty was a woman.

He said, “There was an attack at Mussa ward yesterday afternoon. They killed one civilian, a lady, and four soldiers.”

Military sources, who spoke with PUNCH on condition of anonymity, said the affected soldiers were personnel of the 115 Task Force Battalion in the local government.

“Four of our troops belonging to the 115 Task Force Battalion were killed while ensuring that the terrorists did not gain entrance into the town.

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“The insurgents were not many, but it was a coordinated attack aimed at infiltrating the town. The troops stood their ground, but unfortunately, the four were killed,” one of the sources said.

Residents of the community said they heard gunfire for about 30 minutes, leaving villagers in disarray.

“We were hearing serious gunshots, and many people began to flee their homes at exactly 12pm yesterday.

“If not for the military’s defence, they had intended to enter our community that afternoon to cause massive destruction,” a resident who pleaded not to be identified said.

The attack marks the latest in a series of assaults on civilian and military positions across the state