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Nigeria: Explosion Rocks Kaduna

Daily Champion (Lagos) 11 September 2008

Posted to the web 11 September 2008

John Shikilam Lagos

Two people were killed on Tuesday in Kachia, Kaduna state while five others were seriously injured when a bomb exploded at the Military Shooting Range where they had gone for picnic.

The victims who are said to be beggars were said to have been tored to shreds when the bomb exploded.

One of the beggars was said to have ignorantly picked up the bomb and tried to force one of the ends open when it exploded, tearing him and his friend to shreds.

One of the survivors, Yakubu Alhaji who is receiving treatment at the Kachia General Hospital told newsmen that the bomb exploded when the boy who picked it up and tried to force it open.

Also, a man who identified himself as the father one of the deceased, said his son lost one leg while his colleague lost his hands among other parts of the body.

Chairman of Kachia local Government, Mr. John Audu who confirmed the incident to newsmen disclosed that his council donated undisclosed sums of money for the treatment of those injured.

Audu however urged parents to caution their children against roaming about at the Military Shooting Range which, according to him, is littered with live explosives.

Police sources confirmed the death of the two teenage beggars but declined further comments as they were yet to be briefed by military authorities on the issue.

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"It is a military affair. We are yet to get details from them as to how the explosive exploded within the Shooting Range area. It is the military authorities that will confirm whether the exploded object was a bomb or not. It will be risky to say it is a bomb or hand grenade or any other form of explosive", a police source stated.

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