



**We will arrest
security situation
—Jonathan**

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Boko Haram strikes, kills Police chief, 4 cops in Katsina

BOKO Haram sect yesterday attacked a branch of Bank PHB and a police station in Kankara town in Katsina State killing the Divisional Police Officer (DPO) and five other police officers.

The incident which took place in the evening of yesterday is coming less than

a week the sect bombed the Police Force headquarters, Abuja killing 10 people.

Just last Sunday, members of the Sect killed two person and injured four others at a relaxation centre in Maiduguri, Borno State.

The Kankara police attack was said to have lasted for

about 40 minutes. They carted away guns and other security equipment of the late police officers.

A resident of Kankara, Ibrahim Sulaiman stated that people scammed for safety as sound of gunshots boomed. He explained that traffic was brought to a halt.

According to him the gunmen first attacked the police station before proceeding to the bank where they shot endlessly. The slain DPO was said to be in his office when the Boko Haram members came. According to one of the policemen in the station who told Daily Champion that he

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Harvest of deaths: 4 youth corpsers, 24 others perish in auto crashes

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COMMISSIONING... Lagos State Governor Babatunde Fashola (SAN) (m) cutting the tape to commission 100 new Compactor Trucks to PSP Operators, with him (L-r) are MD IBTC Mrs. Sola David-Borha, Permanent Secretary Ministry of Environment, Mrs Titi Anibaba, president Association of Waste Managers of Nigeria, Mr Adegboyega Adepitan and MD of LAWMA, Mr Ola Oresanya, during the hand over in Lagos yesterday.



Confusion over recovery of 20 corpses in Onitsha

ODOGWU EMEKA ODOGWU,
Awka

OFFICIALS of the Anambra State Task Force on Markets and Parks yesterday debunked reports that they recovered 20 dead bodies from a tunnel in Onitsha.

The group said they recovered only two bodies in the little bush surrounding MTN mast at the Upper Iweka section of Onitsha.

It would be recalled that 20 bodies were reportedly discovered and recovered by the task force in a tunnel in the commercial city last weekend.

In a bid to put the record straight, the members of the task force yesterday insisted that they only discovered two bodies in a bush. The group also dismissed the story of a lady being raped in the tunnel whose groaning was reported to have attracted members of the task force.

They rather said they got a report the previous night that somebody was robbed under the Upper Iweka flyover by thieves who were said to have ran into the tunnel after the attack.

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Bombing: Police top shots hold strategy meeting

MALACHY UZENDU,
Abuja BUREAU CHIEF

AS part of effort to get its acts together and work in unison the Police high command has convened an emergency meeting of its top officers tomorrow.

It would be recalled that suicide bombers on Thursday last week bombed Police

Headquarters in Abuja moments after the Inspector General of Police drove into the premises. At least 10 persons reportedly died while 73 vehicles were destroyed.

Tomorrow's meeting

which will hold at the Louis Edet House would include all the Commissioners of Police and above as well as the investigators of the bomb blasts. It is the first meeting of police top shots since after the

blast.

Although Force spokesman, DCP Olusola Amore claimed the meeting is routine, *Daily Champion* can authoritatively gathered that the parley is to review the incident and possibly apportion blame where necessary. A source specifically disclosed that

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COUNTRYMAN

DEFEATED POLITICIANS
ASKED TO SHOW
SPORTSMANSHIP. NEWS



WHICH OF THE
SPORTS
WRESTLING OR
BOXING?

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The task force however admitted it had been getting complaints that hoodlums use the tunnel as heaven after committing crimes. Although it did not deny or confirm the truism of such claims, it said its office is looking over the flyover where the tunnel is located.

The task force said "So, on Friday morning we decided to cut the grass that has overgrown the tunnel. We gathered some people to help us do that."

"As we cut the grass and approached the tunnel we had some footsteps running in the tunnel and so we decided to go into the tunnel. Unknown to us the tunnel has an outlet at the other end after the bridge and before we could get to that end those running had escaped. But we saw a man with an injured person so we asked what he was doing at the end of the tunnel. Since he could not give us a reasonable answer we handed him over to the police."

The officials who spoke to newsmen in their office on condition of anonymity because the chairman of the task force, Mr. Onuora was said to have traveled to Awka further explained that when they went into the tunnel, they found three long forms (wooden benches) which

Task force

they believed those living in the tunnel use for their bed; a bag containing some loaves of bread and a crate of sprite they also believe the occupants use to eat the bread.

After clearing the grass, they said, they found two bodies in the area, one of them bathed with acid. However, a young man who introduced himself as security man watching over the MTN mast claimed that the body bathed with acid is that of a mad woman. According to him, he reported to work one morning to find the body dumped in the area. He claimed that the woman died under the flyover where the police conduct stop and search daily. Rather than leave the body to decompose and constitute health hazard, he believed, the police took her to the place and bathed her with acid to avoid the body emitting odour. But officials of the task force did not believe the story. The body is still lying in the area by yesterday when newsmen visited the site.

All efforts to get either Onuora or the Special Adviser on Markets and Parks, Hon. Sylvester Nwobu Alor to speak on the issue proved abortive as Nwobu Alor was said to be attending the State Executive meeting.

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had to hid himself, the gunmen opened fire on any policeman they cited.

He said "They arrived the station and opened fire on everybody."

This is not the first time the sect members would attack policemen and security

Boko Haram

operatives. In Borno they have killed scores of policemen.

In the attack on Force headquarters last week, Boko Haram announced that their target was the Inspector General of Police Hafiz Ringim.

4 youth corporers, 24 others perish in auto crashes

TONY ITA ETIM, Enugu

28 passengers including four discharged members of the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) returning home after the national service yesterday died in a fatal auto accident in Enugu.

Two persons who survived the accident which involved two commuter buses were in coma and were immediately rushed to a nearby hospital.

The duo were rescued by officials of the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC) who rushed them to a hospital at Ninth Mile.

The accident occurred at

Egede village on Ninth Mile -Nsukka Highway when a commuter bus belonging to Peace Mass Transit with registration number BENUE - XB 504 TKP and another bus owned by Enugu State Transport Company (ENTRACO) with registration number ENUGU - XL 812 UWN each conveying 15 passengers collided.

The Peace Mass Transit bus marked 2258 was conveying passengers from Enugu to Nsukka and was said to be overtaking another vehicle when he collided with oncoming ENTRACO bus.

Charred bodies and

personal effects belonging to the passengers littered the road. It was through the identity cards of the deceased that the FRSC rescue team and sympathisers discovered four NYSC members that were in the ill-fated buses. Their discharge certificates laid on the roads but non was mutilated.

The FRSC Sector Commander in Delta State, Commander Lukas Ikpi, said that he was passing through the road and had to alert his colleagues at the Enugu Sector Command when he saw the accident. He said they rushed to the scene for rescue

operation.

Ikpi who supervised the rescue operation, asked the FRSC officials to cut open the vehicles to bring out the corpses but as at the time of filing this report seven corpses were yet to be evacuated from the buses.

Ikpi said that the corpses recovered earlier were sent to Our Saviour Hospital mortuary at Ninth Mile, adding that all the corpses would be deposited there.

He continued that two persons who were rescued alive but were seriously wounded had been taken to the hospital for treatment.

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some officer would be tongue lashed for noticeable security lapses in parts of the country and also map out strategy for improved performance.

The source revealed that there are fears that discussing the modus operandi for dealing with dreaded Boko Haram, which has claimed responsibility for the FHQ bomb blasts and other bombings in the northern parts of the country, would leak as evidence abound that there are evidence of moles in Police top hierarchy who leak information

They claimed to have more intelligence than the police and insisted that Ringim must resign if peace must be allowed to reign.

Police authorities have scheduled a meeting today in Abuja ostensibly to find a solution to the worsening situation.

Bombing

to the religious sect operatives.

In the course of investigating last week's blast in Abuja, evidence gleaned from the specimen so far gathered by ballistics and forensic experts from the debris of the blast pointed at insider connivance in the entire incident.

Sources at the Force Headquarters told our reporters that preliminary information put together by the experts assembled by the Inspector-General of Police (IGP), Alhaji Hafiz Ringim to unravel how the person carrying the bomb entered into the force headquarters in the first place.

According to sources, the mega-tonne bomb, which could be found only in military and related installations, have sent the National Security Adviser (NSA) to re-strengthen his intelligence gathering parameters with a view to getting to the pin-point of where the bomb came from.

It was gathered that not only was the specie which wrecked the havoc similar to what is being kept in military armouries, the level of accuracy in detonating the bomb

lives the NSA gapping about the dependability of certain elements posted to certain strategic exclusive places and vulnerable points.

Last week's bomb killed visitors, drivers, members of the Police Mobile Force (PMF) on stand-by at the Force Headquarters as well as several other people and contractors who mill around the vast parking lot.

Apart from the ten burnt corpses which were taken to the Asokoro General Hospital mortuary, the other victims were decimated and cut to minor pieces and flung far and between the FHQ and adjoining premises in bits and pieces.

Some of such specie have been discovered at the Police Officers Wives Association (POWA) Nursery and Primary school, right opposite the FHQ as well as flung up to the Court of Appeal premises and SCC construction sites and the nearby bush and other premises surrounding the Presidential Villa.

It was learnt that since it was not possible for any untrained driver to have barged into the IGP's convoy and yet have a lee way as being speculated, but could have taken only someone who connived with insiders to have successfully

brought in such high level tonnage of bomb into the premises, the need for further probe became inevitable.

Just penultimate week while commissioning the Armoured Personnel Carrier (APCs) procured by the Borno State government to war off the dreaded Boko Haram which had wrecked havoc in the state and other parts of the North East, the IGP has boasted that the days of the sect group were numbered.

Today's meeting will also review why the CCTV camera and equipment at the Force Headquarters have so far failed to capture any reasonable footage of what transpired.

Issues of kidnapping and raping of NYSC members some states would also be thoroughly discussed as the menace has been giving the Police bad image, especially in the South East zone, which Ringim manned as Assistant Inspector-General of Police (AIG) before his elevation to IGP.

It was gathered that these issues are not dealt with and possibly exterminated reduced to negligible level. Then, the IGP would continue to be a laughing stock among his colleagues in the security circles, which he has vowed should not continue.

Oyo PDP rejects Folarin's ministerial nomination

DELE OGUNYEMI, Ibadan

THE Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), Oyo State Chapter yesterday in Ibadan kicked against the nomination of former Senate Leader, Senator Teslim Folarin as a ministerial nominee in the emerging cabinet of President Goodluck Ebele Jonathan accusing Folarin of anti-party activities.

The party at a press conference addressed by the party's state secretary, Alhaji Bashiru Akanbi, accused Folarin and Lekan Balogun of anti-party activities. Also accused of working against the interest of the party are former

Deputy Governor of the State, Alhaji Azeem Gbolarami; and a former Minister of Special Duties, Elder Wole Oyelese.

But the Oyo PDP used the forum to hail the Commissioner of Police for the State Command, Mr. Baba Adisa Bolanta for the way and manner he has been handling the investigations of the lingering crisis rocking the National Union of Road Transport Workers (NURTW) in the state. The party's scribe declared that Oyo PDP has a lot of "respect" for Bolanta and is against the calls from some quarters for his immediate re-deployment from the state "because he has not done

anything to warrant his transfer."

He declared: "Since Bolanta arrived Oyo State, there has been peace and less of crimes. Bolanta has not done anything to warrant his transfer. As far as we are concerned in PDP, we respect Bolanta. The Commissioner of Police has been busy parading hoodlums and armed robbers. Let the ACN face governance instead of criticizing Bolanta. They should leave Bolanta to perform his work. Governor Ajimobi's Judicial Commission of Enquiry into the NURTW crisis is a kangaroo probe panel which has been set out to witchhunt."

We will arrest security situation —Jonathan

TONY AILEMEN, Abuja

PRESIDENT Goodluck Jonathan yesterday reassured the country that his administration is taking definite steps to strengthen national security.

The President stated this when he received members of the family of Nigeria's former Prime Minister, Late Alhaji Abubakar Tafawa Balewa, who paid a thank-you visit to State House.

The President who was responding to commiseration remarks on the bomb blast that rocked the Police Headquarters last week, described the explosion as "an act of terror, which had become a global trend"

He reassured that the Administration was taking all necessary steps to ensure the safety of all Nigerians, adding that no incident should be overlooked, no matter the

circumstances or location of its occurrence. President Jonathan welcomed the appreciation expressed by the Tafawa Balewa Family for naming the new Ministry of Foreign Affairs building after the Late Prime Minister, adding that it was not an accident, but a 'recognition of his contribution as Nigeria's first foreign minister and to the development of Nigeria as its first Premier.

"It is important that great leaders are appreciated," he stated. On the plans by the family to establish a Foundation in memory of their father, President Jonathan advised that they should ensure the appointment of people of integrity who will keep the good name of the Late Prime Minister alive, and stated that his mausoleum would be upgraded, to serve as a suitable tourist attraction for visiting foreign leaders and other visitors.

Earlier, Malam. Yakubu

Tafawa-Balewa, a member of the family, expressed appreciation to the President for naming the new Ministry of Foreign Affairs building after their father, and commiserated with the President for the bomb blast at the Nigeria Police headquarters last week.

He also intimated the President of their plans to set up a foundation in memory of their father, to focus on good governance and good neighbourliness. Speaking with State House Correspondents after the visit, Mal. Yakubu Tafawa-Balewa, said the family was grateful to the Jonathan administration and all Nigerians for remembering to honour their late father.

He said "We have come to condole the President over the death of our fellow Nigerians who died in the last Thursday bomb blast at the Police Force Headquarters in Abuja and also to thank the President for

naming the Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs building after our father" Ques: Is there any other thing the family will like the government to do for them? Well, it is left for the government. A beggar is not a master."

On the Boko Haram uprising, he called on the government to do a proper investigations on the background of the problem before taking appropriate action even as he fingered unemployment and poverty as part of the issues he will want the government to tackle.

He said "The government should dig below the surface to be able to tackle the problem adequately. The question should be what is or are the causes and why? It is from the answers you get that will enable you to know the next step to take to tackle the problem. Remember it is not only the Boko Haram that is the problem facing this nation. There are a lot of problems."

Earlier, Malam. Yakubu

Customs impound container-load of dollars

SYLVA EMEKA-OKEREKE, Asst News Editor & Paul Ogbuokiri, Asst Business Editor

FEW months after the interception of cache of arms at Apapa seaport, the

Nigeria Customs Service (NCS) yesterday impounded a 40ft container stuffed with over 110,000 US Dollars, about N17.23 million.

The container arrived Tincan Island Port over the weekend from the Port of Baltimore, United States of America, aboard MV Dunedeen with container number MSK96291/0.

Customs Area Comptroller, Tincan Island Port, Mr. Austine Warikoro, who displayed the container while briefing newsmen on the incident, said such importation contravenes the Money Laundering Act of Nigeria.

According to him, the importers would be charged to court while all the contents forfeited to the federal government.

The clearing agent, he noted, said, the container was sub-letted to him by the importer, adding that, both the importer and clearing agents will be prosecuted.

It would be recalled that, few months ago, the Nigeria Customs Service impounded 101 pieces of 40SW calibre live ammunition; one live cartridge bullet and three pieces of military smoke explosive. Others include,

one Cyalume light sticks suspected to contain explosives; one short fire lock installation guide; one piece of wire suspected to be used for improvised explosive device; one pack of gun cleaning kit and two stickers of the Central Intelligence Agency.

The container, imported by one Mr. Alfred Kwaku Anti was jointly examined by the Nigeria Customs Service with other security agencies, including the Department of State Security, Naval Intelligence, National Drug Law Enforcement Agency and the Nigerian Police.

Also discovered in the container included three packets of psychotropic drugs namely: Banactrin, Alkacelzer plus Tylenol extra strength; one bottle of a y to be identified powder substance and an envelope containing pay slips of Alfred Kwaku Anti.

Prior to that, another vessel, MV Gum suspected to carry true load of hazardous waste at Tincan Island port was impounded and later allowed to sail back to the Port of Antwerp, Germany where it came from.