

Gunmen bomb police, FRSC offices in Borno

From Hamza Idris, Maiduguri

OVER 20 gunmen suspected to be members of the Jama'atu Ahlus Sunnati Lidda'awati Wal Jihad, also known as Boko Haram penultimate Wednesday launched two attacks on Mainok, a village along Maiduguri-Damaturu highway and bombed a police outpost as well as the office of the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC).

Mainok was attacked around 9pm, residents of the area said.

The attack was launched five days after similar onslaught on the JTF headquarters in Maiduguri and many police and federal government formations in Damaturu, Yobe State which left over 150 people dead.

There are conflicting figures of casualties recorded in the attacks in Mainok. While residents of the area claimed that four policemen were killed, the Borno State commissioner of police Simeon Midenda who spoke on phone confirmed the attack but said no casualty was recorded.

"Actually there was an attack in Mainok but we did not lose any of our men. No, not a single officer was killed in the attack," he said.

But another source said two civilians were killed. "I think the civilians that died in the incidents were hit by stray bullets," the source said.

Residents of Mainok said about 20 gunmen overran the village and brandished sophisticated weapons

and explosives.

"The gunmen fired assault rifles at the police station before throwing several explosives into the building, which razed it down," Alameen Bana, a resident of the village said.

"It was a night raid and all of us in the village never anticipated something like this. Most of us had gone to bed when we began to hear sporadic gunshots and then a horrible sound of explosives," Mustapha Abba, another resident said.

Also speaking on the incident, the Borno FRSC sector Commander, Mr. James Christopher, confirmed that his Mainok unit office was destroyed by the gunmen, while a patrol vehicle belonging to the commission was also affected.

17 killed, 15 others injured in Bauchi road mishap

From Ahmed Mohammed, Bauchi

were females, 21 males and 3 children.

Mamman Said, "Fifteen persons that were injured during the accident include 7 females, 6 males and 2 children, while the 17 persons that lost their lives include 15 male, one female and one child. From my investigations from the FRSC office in Azare, the accident was caused as a result of dangerous overtaking and overloading."

The Sector Commander who warned members of the public, particularly passengers, against boarding overloaded vehicles advised drivers plying the high ways to obey speed limits when driving, saying: "It is careless overtaking that usually result to the high rates of accidents on our highways."

SEVENTEEN people have been reported killed, while 15 others sustained injuries in a fatal motor accident along Azare -Potiskum road in Katagum local Government of Bauchi State on Tuesday.

The accident, which occurred around 12.35pm in the afternoon, involved an 18-seater Toyota commercial bus with registration number XC195KPG and a Peugeot Station Wagon 505, with registration number AE466PKM.

The Bauchi State Sector Commander of the Federal Road Safety, Mr Zakaria Mamman, who confirmed the incident to newsmen, stated that out of the 32 persons that were involved in the accident, 8