

## Robbers kill 8 policemen...In Zamfara, Adamawa

Written by Lawan Danjuma Adamu, Gusau & Ibrahim Abdul'Aziz, Yola  
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Armed robbers yesterday waylaid and killed four policemen and two young girls in a daylight attack along a road in Zamfara State, just as another four policemen were killed by robbers in a separate attack in Adamawa State.

In the Zamfara attack, the robbers opened fire on the policemen along the road leading to Jangeme and Tofa villages nears Magami town in Gusau Local Government Area.

About 20 of the robbers opened fire on a convoy of local businessmen who were heading to Kano around 8am and robbed passengers of undisclosed amounts of money, Daily Trust gathered.

/ The killing of the policemen is coming about a week after the state Police Commissioner, Tambari Yabo Muhammad, escaped an armed robbery attack along Talata Mafara-Gusau road on his way to the state capital, Gusau.

Accounts by survivors of yesterday's attack showed that the hoodlums were divided into groups and stationed at three different points along the busy Jangeme road when motorcade of the businessmen approached under police escort.

"They allowed us to drive past the first roadblock without a challenge. But as we got to the middle of what appeared like an ambush, they opened fire and killed four policemen on the spot," Malam Muhammad Sani told our correspondent.

Sani explained that about 20 vehicles came under the morning attack, adding that he was disposed of N80, 000 by the armed robbers. The victim, who was shot in the left arm and is receiving treatment at the Federal Medical Centre (FMC) Gusau, disclosed that a bullet pierced through his hand and disembowelled a 2-year-old daughter of his friend, who was seated on his lap. "She was brought to the hospital with us, but she died later," he said.

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According to him, an elder sister of the deceased girl, aged 3, was also killed by the armed robbers.

It was also gathered that the slain police officers were deployed to the area as part of security measures to protect motorists plying the road from incessant armed robbery attacks that have become prevalent in the area.

Witnesses said one of the policemen engaged the attackers in serious gun battle before he was subsequently over powered. Those killed, according to police source, include Inspector Lawwali Ibrahim Mada, Sergeant Hassan Bako, Corporal Dominic Maiwada and Constable Yahaya Ibrahim.

The robbers were said to have carted away arms belonging to the policemen.

The robbers, who were well-armed, operated on eight motorcycles, with each one carrying three passengers. Similarly, they were said to have carted away arms belonging to the policemen.

Medical personnel at FMC Gusau confirmed the casualty figure to Daily Trust.

Following the attack, Zamfara State Commissioner of Police lead a joint security team comprising the army and the police to the scene with a view to tracking down the gunmen, it was gathered.

Contacted, the Zamfara State Police Public Relations Officer, ASP Sanusi Amiru, said the commissioner would brief newsmen on the attack later in the day.

Our correspondent reports that the state has witnessed spate of armed robbery related attacks this year, with many resulting in large casualties. Earlier in the year, suspected armed robbers

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waged a retaliatory attacks in villages of Tungar Baushe and Guru, and later, Lingyado, killing 29 persons, forcing Governor Abdul'aziz Yari Abubakar to request for deployment of a patrol headquarters from the Police Force headquarters in Abuja.

In Adamawa State, the Police command yesterday said some gunmen suspected to be robbers late Sunday night opened fire on policemen killing four and injuring two others.

Police Public Relations Officer in Yola, Altine Daniel, said the policemen were on patrol along Gombi-Garkida road when they ran into a gang of robbers who opened fire on them.

He said no arrest has been made and investigations were going on.