

Men in army uniform kill 5 in Taraba

• *Injure friend of Kabiru Sokoto's brother*

Abdullahi Tasiu Abubakar, Yola

A group of armed men wearing army uniform took seven people to the bush in the early hours of yesterday and executed five of them in Gassol Local Government Area of Taraba State, residents of the area said.

The sixth person was left to die after he was beaten and shot, but he survived. The seventh person is missing, presumed killed.

The incident took place in Dan Anacha town near Sabongida village where the suspected Boko Haram activist Kabiru Sokoto was arrested earlier this year.

The person who was left for dead is a friend of Kabiru Sokoto's brother, residents said.

They told *Weekly Trust* that the armed men went to the village around 3am on Friday in about seven vehicles, went to different houses and picked their victims.

"They came in jeeps and Toyota Hilux. They first went straight to the house of Kabiru's brother's friend and picked him. They then went to different houses and arrested people and drove away with them," one resident who prefers anonymity due to fear of reprisal told *Weekly Trust* yesterday evening.

They drove to the nearby bush, tied their hands and legs with ropes and executed them, he said.

Five of the victims died on the spot, but the sixth person was left for dead. There was no

information about the seventh person.

The sixth person has been taken to hospital and is unable to give any account of what happened in the bush.

All the five dead persons have been buried yesterday in the village.

But police investigators had reportedly taken pictures of the corpses and recorded the incident.

The residents told *Weekly Trust* that when the incident happened, they went and informed the Divisional Police Officer of Gassol Local Government Area, Nuhu Mohammed Digil, who informed them that police had no hands in the incident.

He and local leaders were involved in trying to reassure the people that the matter would be investigated.

Police spokesman in Taraba State Ibiang Mbasieke told *Weekly Trust* that the incident has been reported to them and that they are investigating it.

He said investigation would be conducted to ascertain whether those who did the killings were genuine soldiers or criminals using army uniforms.

Taraba witnessed suicide bombing last Monday where at least eleven persons were killed and 23 others injured when motor bike riders carrying bombs targeted the state commissioner of police Sule Mamman when he was on his way to office.

Gunmen kill two prison warders in Borno

Yahaya Ibrahim, Maiduguri

TWO prison warders were yesterday killed when some gunmen attacked a police station and a nearby prison in Kumshe town, Bama local government area of Borno.

Borno State police spokesman, Samuel Tizhe, who confirmed the incident to newsmen, said "gunmen

first attacked a police station in Banki town but were repelled by the police."

Tizhe said five hours later the gunmen went and attacked a nearby Prison in Kumshi town.

The spokesman also disclosed that the Police have "so far arrested 23 persons in connection with the attacks."