

Blast kills two in Mubi

From Hamza Idris, Maiduguri

Two people were killed on Wednesday, while many others were injured when an Improvised Explosive Devices (IED) that was targeted at the Joint Task Force (JTF) exploded close to a busy market in Mubi, Adamawa State.

Witnesses said an IED remote controlled bomb missed a convoy of two Hilux vehicles of JTF troops that were patrolling the busy road that leads to the Mubi city centre.

"The first military vehicle had just passed an intersection that led to the market and the second vehicle was yet to arrive when the bomb exploded. The blast was followed by sporadic gunshots," a witness said.

He said he saw many people, including women and children bleeding.

"A boy of about 12 years sustained fractures and I saw

another little girl on the ground. I don't know whether she was alive or dead," he said.

Some traders at the nearby international cattle market said they were rattled by the sound of the blast.

"The sound was thunderous and disturbing...you know, Tuesdays and Wednesdays are market days and the explosion occurred around 12noon when the whole place was filled to capacity," a cow dealer, who spoke to our correspondent said.

Efforts to get official response proved abortive as the Commander of the 23rd Armoured Brigade, Yola, Brigadier General John Nwoaga, did not pick his phone and did not respond to a text message sent to him.

However, he has told the Hausa Service of the BBC that two people were killed in the incident.