



Three vigilantes die in confrontation with soldiers



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Three youth vigilantes died during a confrontation with soldiers along Bulunkutu area in Maiduguri.

Trouble started when the youths intercepted two private trucks loaded with ammunition brought into the state capital by soldiers of the 7th division from the airport where they had received the supplies.

They were reportedly stopped by the youth while on their way to the Maimalari Barracks.

A witness, Kachalla Modu said, "The soldiers were on a routine trip from the airport where they had loaded some ammunition meant for the 7th division and in the process of going into the town, the vehicle was stopped by youth who sensed foul play.

"On interrogation, the soldiers accompanying the truck told the youths that they were conveying rice but the youths insisted on checking. The result was the discovery of weapons and bombs.

"The soldiers who were in uniform admitted and showed their identity cards to the youth who then flared off. Sadly the JTF boys started jumping on top of the trailers and set some tyres ablaze, alleging that the soldiers were mercenaries sent to attack Maiduguri which was already filled with people that came for the APC rally," he said.

Our correspondents gathered that when the soldiers realized that the youths were going violent, and may likely set the vehicles ablaze, they fired at them, killing three instantly and injuring over 10 who are now receiving treatment in hospitals.

A senior army officer who confirmed the incident said only two youths lost their lives, describing the incident as unfortunate.

He said as a result of security challenges, the army uses various methods in conveying arms and ammunitions to various destinations.

Similarly, dozens of youths, said to be supporters of the All Progressives Congress (APC) yesterday destroyed some portion of the campaign secretariat of former governor Ali Modu Sheriff in Maiduguri.

Some offices in the complex were set ablaze while all the billboards mounted in the

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frontage, including a tricycle were destroyed. Sheriff defected to the PDP last year. It took the intervention of soldiers and policemen to disperse the youths who destroyed various PDP symbols along the Shehu Laminu Way and other locations.

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