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General

IED kills 9-yr old, injures two in Plateau

By Hir Joseph, Jos | Publish Date: Jan 11 2016 12:48AM | Updated Date: Jan 11 2016 12:49AM

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An Improvised Explosive Device (IED) went off killing a child and injuring his two younger brothers in Haipang, Barkin Ladi Local Government Area in Plateau State.

A resident of the community, near the Yakubu Gowon airport, Mr. Cephas Choji told Daily Trust on phone that the children were playing with the device, concealed inside a shopping bag, when it exploded killing the 9-year old instantly.

He said the other two were rushed to the hospital where they are receiving treatment.

Choji gave the names of the children as 9-year old Daylop Chollom who died in the blast as well as Ephraim Habila Pam, 6, and Mark Chollom, 4.

He said the incident happened morning of Friday, after adults left for the farms.

Choji, who is the National President, Berom Youth Movement (BYM), said there are two accounts of the incident, one saying the children

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were handed the explosive by a passer-by and the other saying the children stumbled on the bag at the back of their house while playing there.

Daily Trust inquiries showed that the blast, which shook structures in nearby places, put people in panic with large numbers fleeing the area to Jos.

Spokesman of Operation Safe Haven (OSH), Captain Ikedichi Iweha confirmed the incident, but said there was not much information about the incident because investigation was at an early stage.

He said a team of officers and men arrived the scene immediately and confirmed that there was an explosion which killed a child.

He said the team gathered up fragments of the device, which have been handed to experts to analysis before a public statement can be issued.



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