

B/Haram abducts women, kills soldier in Borno

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Boko Haram insurgents Tuesday ambushed two commuter buses and abducted about seven female passengers between Pulka and Gwoza in Borno State.

The buses, separate sources told Daily Trust, were among the vehicles heading for Gwoza from Maiduguri, each carrying about 23 passengers.

Security agencies had not issued any statement about the ambush, but the civilian JTF and vigilante sources said the insurgents caused no other havoc than abducting the female passengers, the number of whom some of the sources put at seven, while others said they were more.

“When the plying vehicles beheld the insurgents stopping the buses, they immediately observed that they were insurgents in military camouflage, so all the other vehicles driving at a safe distance made a u-turn towards Pulka,” the sources narrated.

One of the male commuters of one of the ambushed buses, who spoke to Daily Trust on phone on condition of anonymity, said: “They (insurgents) just stopped us, ordered all of us, the passengers to alight; we did; they separated the male and female passengers; they then ordered the elderly among the female passengers to step out and join our group, the male passengers; then they herded the group of younger female passengers into their vehicles and sped into the bush without mentioning a word to us.

“I heard some people saying the abducted women are seven, but I think they are more than seven,” he said.

Different sources also said a soldier was killed by the insurgents, but it was not clear if the soldier was on any escort team.

A security source who craved for anonymity said: “Yes, there was an abduction in Gwoza on Tuesday evening based on credible report reaching us and so far, there was a figure bandied around, some say 7 women were among the abducted but, it is yet to be confirmed as investigation into the incident is presently ongoing.”

Another source said it was one 30- seater bus and the abductees included male passengers.