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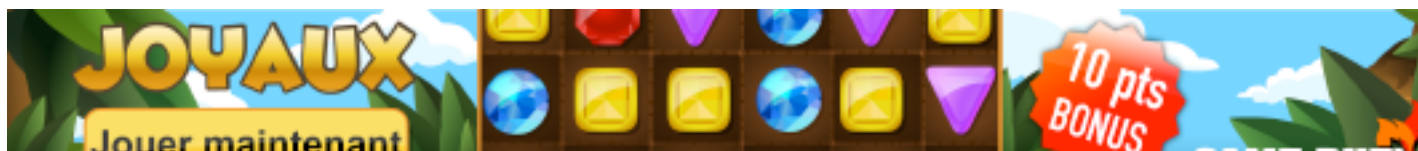
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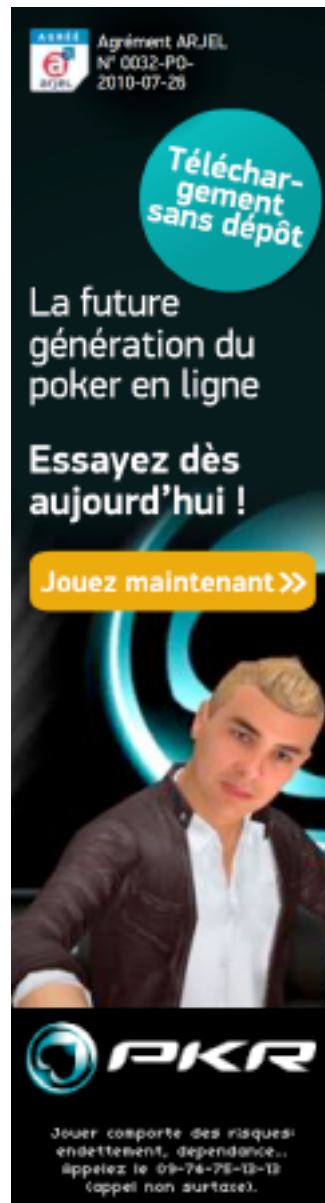
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Tuesday, August 30, 2011

Gunmen kill Borno council chief, others

From Wole Shadare (in Dar es-Salaam) and Njadvra Musa (Maiduguri)

Gunmen suspected to be Boko Haram sect members on Sunday night killed the Chairman of Kukawa Council in Borno State, Lawan Yarami, along with two spareparts dealers in Gambouru in Bulabulin-Ngarannam area of Maiduguri metropolis.



Meanwhile, the Federal Government has re-assured the international community of the country's resolve to fight terrorism.

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The Minister of Aviation, Mr. Stella Oduah-Ogienwonyi, who was represented by the Director-General of Nigeria Civil Aviation Authority (NCAA), Dr. Harold Demuren, gave the assurance yesterday at the on-going 17th Aviation and Allied Business Leadership Conference holding in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.



The suspects, according to an eyewitness, trailed the council chief from the mosque to his residence where they shot him several times on the chest and head.



The spareparts dealers were killed by two suspected Boko Haram gunmen on a tricycle at the traders' residence and fled, abandoning the motorcycle with which they carried out the act.

Confirming the multiple attacks and killings yesterday, the Borno State Police Commissioner, Mr. Simeone Midenda, said: "We received the reports of the multiple attacks and killings on Sunday night from our Divisional Police Officers in Gambouru and Lamisula stations, that four suspected Boko Haram gunmen attacked and killed

the council chairman of Kukawa, Malam Lawan Yarami, along with two other spareparts Gambouru traders," adding that the killings were carried out within 30 minutes with Kalashnikov rifles hid in their flowing gowns.

Governor Kashim Shettima of Borno State has condoled with families of the slain council chief and traders in a message he sent yesterday night, while performing his lesser hajj in Mecca, Saudi Arabia.

Over 250 delegates, comprising high-ranking government officials, business leaders around the globe, are participating in the three-day summit.

Oduah-Ogienwonyi spoke against the background of the bombing of the United Nations (UN) building in Abuja last week Friday by suspected members of the Boko Haram religious sect.

She disclosed that Nigeria would take a cue like the rest of the world to fight terrorism.

The minister said no country is immuned from terrorism, adding that the nation was already on top of the situation to unmask the perpetrators of the heinous act.

She urged African member-states of the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) to implement the UN safety and security roadmap.

She added: "Together, we must fight to ensure safe aviation. We have resolved as a government to fight terrorism. The whole world is also fighting this menace.

Together, we must fight to ensure safe aviation."

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