

# Gunmen kill father, son, others, kidnap Gen. Rotimi's wife

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**G**UNMEN once again defied security operatives' efforts to rein in their activities as they went on the prowl, killing a father and his son. Others killed were a soldier and a car dealer.

In different places, gunmen also kidnapped Titilayo, the wife of Brig-Gen. Oluwole Rotimi (rtd), and an expatriate.

Also, kidnappers yesterday morning stormed the site of Setraco Nigeria Limited at

Ekigbo, Ughelli, Delta State, and abducted an expatriate engineer after shooting the soldier guarding him.

A source said the soldier died as he was being rushed to hospital for treatment. An eyewitness said the kidnappers may have trailed the expatriate from their office to the site where the dualisation of the Ekigbo Road project was going on and abducted the engineer.

In Ibadan, Oyo State, the wife of Brig-Gen. Rotimi (rtd), Titilayo, has been kidnapped by unknown gunmen. The incident, according to eyewitness

account, occurred at about 6.30 p.m. on Monday in front of her office.

Titilayo was kidnapped by about four armed hefty men while retiring from her office. At the Ikolaba, Ibadan residence of the Rotimis, the place was deserted yesterday.

Oyo State Police spokesman, Ayodele Lanade, who confirmed the incident yesterday said: "It is true the woman (Titilayo) was kidnapped on Monday at about 6.30 p.m. and I can tell you that our men are currently on the trail of the criminals. "In Maiduguri, the

Borno State capital, gunmen suspected to be *Boko Haram* members in separate attacks, yesterday shot dead the ward head of Dusman, Kazala Ali along with his son, while three other suspects shot and killed a car dealer, Mallam Magaji Motors in his Bama Road office at about 11.00 a.m.

Dusman ward is in Jere council area of Borno, where motorcycles were banned early this year by the state government, as suspects allegedly used them to attack and kill residents and other top government officials.

An eyewitness and resident of Gwange ward, Ibrahim Audu said: "We were under this shed when three gunmen between the ages of 18 and 25 walked into the office of our oga, Mallam Magaji and demand to see him. Angered by the non-

response to their inquiry, they walked straight to the office and fired three shots into his head and chest and he slumped dead in the chair."

He said the people around the car park on Bama road had to run for safety, while shops and market stalls were hurriedly shut, because anyone could be a target of the gunmen in Maiduguri.

*The Guardian* learnt that men of the Joint Task Force (JTF) and police rushed to the scene by 1.37 p.m., and cordoned off the area, including Bama Road, Ibrahim Kashim Way.

Motorists and pedestrians were ordered to take Lagos Street, as the area had been cordoned off by JTF for four hours, causing traffic congestion at the Post Office Area and the Musa Usman Secretariat complex for five hours.

