

JTF kills three terror suspects, NUPENG laments insecurity

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THE Joint Task Force (JTF) in Maiduguri, Borno State capital, has killed three suspected Boko Haram terrorists after the hoodlums robbed a Bureau De-Change centre of an undisclosed amount of foreign exchange and snatched a vehicle of the managing director of the centre on Tuesday.

Meanwhile, the Nigeria Union of Petroleum and Natural Gas Workers (NUPENG) has condemned what it described as “the brazen and senseless killings of innocent Nigerians by suspected gunmen” in some parts of the North.

The gunmen in Borno, according to an eyewitness, were shot dead by soldiers immediately after they robbed the Bureau De-Change centre in Hausari ward of the metropolis, before the Baban Layin and Hausari wards were condoned off by the JTF to prevent further attacks and killings.

“We were terrified and shocked when four gunmen started firing sporadically into the air to scare us on Tuesday. Many people started to run for safety, as the gunmen sped off in an unmarked vehicle towards Dandal Way. But the soldiers intercepted them on Baban Layi and killed three of the gunmen, while the other was arrested and whisked away in one of the JTF patrol vehicles to an undisclosed destination in the metropolis.”

Spokesman of Borno State Police Command, Gideon Jibrin, confirmed the incident.

NUPENG said the nation cannot continue to lament the incessant killings everyday, without taking adequate proactive measures to curtail them.

President of the union, Igwe Achese, in a statement yesterday, called on the Federal Government to safeguard the lives and property of its citizens by putting a halt to these killings, “that have dented the image of the country abroad and is scaring foreign investors, at a time we need a re-invigoration of our national economy”.

Achese also advised the Federal Government to concentrate more on scientific intelligence gathering to fish out perpetrators of “the dastardly acts”.

The union also called for concerted efforts of all and sundry, “especially the Elders of the North, to appeal to their children to sheathe the sword and embrace dialogue, which the Federal Government is ready to enter into with them”.

NUPENG called on patriotic Nigerians to volunteer information on the activities of “these dreaded people to security agencies so that such violence can be nipped in the bud before escalation”.


The statement noted that the recent killings of 20 people during Easter celebration in Kaura Local Council of Kaduna State by Fulani herdsmen have added another dimension to the senseless killings, adding that it is “as if we are in a jungle where no law exists”.

NUPENG warned that these killings, if left unchecked, may continue to have negative consequences on the future and development of this country.

It, therefore, called on the Federal Government to change tactics and approach towards addressing the challenges of insecurity in the country “before it gets out of hand”.

NUPENG observed that the economy of the North is “completely crippled because of the frequent attacks on innocent people and places, which have in turn raised the prices of foods and commodities like onions, tomatoes, pepper and cattle brought from the North to the South for sale”.

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