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#### Vigilance group attacks policeman, captures six terrorist suspects

#### Peace committee on Boko Haram a huge scam, says Huriwa

NEMESIS caught up with some unknown gunmen who invaded a village near Fadan Kaje in Zango Kataf local council of Kaduna State, as they were overpowered by hundreds of villagers, who killed two of them, while the rest fled.

The gunmen were said to have arrived at Madauchi village at about 1a.m Sunday and invaded the residence of a prominent villager with the intention of stealing cows.

According to sources, there were sporadic gunshots from the gunmen, which attracted people from other villages, who came out in large number, engaged them in a shootout and killed two. The Kaduna State Police Command spokesman, DSP Aminu Lawal, confirmed the incident Sunday.

Nevertheless, an "error of judgment" saw the Borno State Vigilance Youth Group (BVYG) attack a policeman (name withheld) near El-Amin Daggash Mosque in Maiduguri as he was attempting to capture someone who allegedly stole a bag of rice and a tricycle over the weekend.

Meanwhile, the non-governmental Human Rights Writers' Association of Nigeria (HURIWA) yesterday called on President Goodluck Jonathan to immediately disband the Presidential Special Committee on Dialogue and Peaceful Resolution of the Security Challenges in the North, headed by the Minister of Special Duties, Kabiru Tanimu Turaki (SAN).

In a statement by its National Coordinator, Comrade Emmanuel Onwubiko, and the National Media Affairs Director, Miss Zainab Yusuf, HURIWA said it would amount to grave disservice to the public for the committee to continue to exist after President Jonathan had refuted Turaki's claim that Boko Haram had signed a ceasefire effect from the commencement of Ramadan.

Spokesman of the Joint Task Force (JTF), Lt. Col. Sagir Musa, said in a statement that, "it was an error of judgment by a policeman on duty, who pursued someone who allegedly stole a tricycle and a bag of rice and drove off. The policeman, who was in mufti, wore NPF reflective jacket, pursued the alleged thief and fired two shots."

In the following melee, a minor was also killed near the mosque, while three others were injured before the intervention of the JTF. The firing by the policeman was said to have attracted the worshippers, including the vigilance youth, who were within and around the mosque.

Musa explained that, 'the vigilantes lynched the policeman, burnt the Toyota Carina (that the policeman was in) and the tricycle," while the JTF rescued and took the policeman away after restoring order.

In another development still at the weekend in Zajeri and Madaganari wards of Maiduguri, the combined efforts of the Joint Task Force (JTF) and members of Borno Vigilance Youth Group (BVYG) saw the arrest of six suspected Boko Haram terrorists during a dawn raid.

The three arrested suspects in Madaganari, according to an eyewitness, were picked up at a hideout by the vigilance group, who also recovered three guns, and later handed them over to the JTF sector  $\frac{1}{2}$ commander, who coordinated the dawn raid.

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The other three suspects, he disclosed, were arrested in Zajeri ward when the suspects dressed in female attires and hid two rifles in their veils. A resident of Zajeri also told The Guardian that the arrested suspects were attempting to flee the area before their arrest.

Speaking on the incidents, Chairman of BVYG, Abubakar Mallum, said the arrests followed an intelligence report on fleeing members of the Islamist sect to Madaganari on Friday after the Jumat prayers.

The youths, he added, alerted the JTF, and the soldiers reinforced their patrol teams, who condoned the entire ward before the terror suspects were picked up and handed over to the sector JTF commander. Col. Musa also confirmed the arrests yesterday, noting that it followed a successful dawn raid in Maiduguri.

HURIWA described the exercise as a "huge scam and a scandalous contraption that ought not to have been set up in the first place," and demanded that members of the committee should return to the public coffers all expenses incurred so far in their "merry-go-round."

More so, the group said, "the claim of ceasefire was within 48 hours repudiated by the leader of the dreaded armed Islamic rebels, Sheikh Abubakar Shekau, who claimed in a 10-minute video recording that it has no subsisting peace talk with the Nigerian Government."

That was besides President Jonathan's interview with the United States' Cable News Network, where he told the world that the country had no ceasefire talk with the group.

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