

Nigeria: Insurgents Attack Damaturu, Torch Three Police Formations, Mosque

By Njadvara Musa

Damaturu — WHILE mission for Baga is being worked out troops are on mopping up operation around Damaturu after successfully foiling and containing the terrorists attempt to occupy parts of the town. The terrorists had launched massive attack from different directions of the town on Friday evening, but troops were promptly mobilised to repel the attack that lasted the night, resulting in heavy casualty on the terrorists before the rest of them retreated.

Weapons including IEDs and Rocket Propelled Grenades captured from the terrorists are being compiled while their dead as well as civilian casualties are yet to be determined.

Pursuit of the fleeing terrorists is also ongoing while the five soldiers who were seriously wounded in the attack are being treated in the military medical facility. Though peace has been restored, the town is also being reinforced with more troops.

Though military and police authorities are yet to confirm the level of casualties, the resident said three police formations located in the heart of the metropolis were razed to the ground by the insurgents, chanting God is great in Arabic for two hours of fierce battle with soldiers.

Other property torched, include an Izala Mosque and shops at the motor park.

"Friday's attacks on Damaturu was a reprisal ones by gunmen after the military and local hunters, last Wednesday, killed many terrorists along with the recovery of vehicles, arms and ammunitions from the insurgents in Gujba and Gulani council areas of Yobe State.

These multiple attacks on police formations and a mosque, was a revenge mission on military," said a resident in a telephone interview yesterday in Damaturu. He said the attacks and killings of terrorists in their strongholds of Gujba and Gulani councils, was "humiliating and disappointing" to the Boko Haram religious sect.

Since the recent attacks in some major towns of Yobe State, residents have continued to live in fear of more attacks by the insurgents that have already taken control of many towns and villages in the affected councils.

Despite the repulsion of insurgents from the metropolis, residents continue to remain indoors for fear of being killed or arrested by security agents, as soldiers and policemen continue to patrol the major streets.

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