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News | Metro

Suicide bomber kills self, JTF member in Maiduguri mosque

By Njadvara Musa (Maiduguri) and Nkechi Onyedika-Ugoeze (Abuja) | 01 February 2017 | 1:27 am



The Commissioner of Police (CP), Damian Chukwu, confirmed the incident to news men in Maiduguri.

FG recovers treasure trove of materials from B' Haram

Borno State Police Commissioner, Damian Chukwu, has confirmed a suicide bomb attack that killed a member of the civilian Joint Task Force (JTF) at the Dalori Housing Estate mosque in Maiduguri yesterday.

Two other worshippers in the mosque were also injured after the male suicide bomber detonated his strapped Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) at the entrance of the mosque about 5:22 a.m.

Chukwu said: "Today at about 0522hrs, a male suicide bomber detonated IEDs strapped to his body near a mosque at Dalori Quarters situated along Maiduguri/Konduga/Bama road, killing himself and a civilian JTF operative who was preventing the suicide bomber from getting close to the mosque where many faithful in the housing estate were observing their early morning prayers."

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He said personnel of the Explosives Ordinance Department (EOD) of the police command have condoned off and swept the scene for safety of residents and commuters along the road.

He said that normalcy has returned to the affected areas, including the Maiduguri/Konduga axis that leads to Bama and Gwoza.

Meanwhile, the Federal Government yesterday said it has recovered a treasure trove of materials from Boko Haram. It called for vigilance as the terror group has shifted its strategy towards dominating the media space, propagating a perverted version of Sharia law and giving the impression that it was still holding territory.

In a statement in Abuja, the Minister of Information and Culture, Alhaji Lai Mohammed, appealed to the public and the media to ensure that “they do not unwittingly provide the terrorists with the oxygen of publicity that they desperately need.”

He said the propaganda strategy was discovered from the materials left behind by the terrorists after they were routed from their last stronghold in Sambisa Forest.

According to him, the materials include documents, phones and computers that contained detailed information on the Boko Haram media and propaganda strategy.

According to him, an analysis of the materials showed the insurgents’ training in videography as well as how they sought and received training from other terrorist groups on video recording and manipulation. He said that the documents, written in Arabic, also outlined the media strategy that Boko Haram commanders should employ and how the surviving members should ensure the propagation of their doctrine using the social media.

The minister said the recovered materials confirmed the announcement of a new media wing called “Wadi Baya” (Clear Speech) by Boko Haram in an audio released by the group on January 17, 2017.

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