

Three die, many injured as fire guts Canadian embassy

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The embassy yesterday

Tinubu condoles Canadian government

Three persons were feared dead yesterday, while many others were wounded following a fire outbreak at the Canadian Embassy in Abuja.

The incident caused pandemonium as the embassy staff, mostly Canadians, scampered for safety, while rescuers ensured prompt evacuation of the injured ones.

According to eyewitnesses, the fire broke while the embassy's power generating plant was being repaired, killing three persons, who were part of the crew, while one person escaped through the roof of the power house.

A local staff, who ran out of the embassy for refuge, said the fire started at about 11:30 a.m.

When The Guardian visited, firefighters were battling to put out the fire, while rescuers were moving staffs out of the embassy to safety.

Confirming the incident, Head of Operations, Federal Capital Territory Fire Service, Amiola Adebayo, said two people were fatally injured beyond recognition in the incident, four others have been rushed to the hospitals.

However, Adebayo did not confirm the cause of the fire or the nationality of those affected.

Meanwhile, President Bola Ahmed Tinubu has sympathised with the Canadian government, diplomatic community, and all persons affected by the fire incident.

Tinubu, in a statement by his spokesperson, Ajuri Ngelale, assured the Canadian authorities of the full support of the Nigerian government in the aid of diplomatic and local staff of the High Commission who were affected by the incident.

President Tinubu further prayed for the repose of the departed souls and wished all injured persons a rapid and full recovery.