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Robbers Attack Taraba First Lady, Kill Two Aides

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5 Stars – Excellent

By Janet Nyajon, Reporter, Jalingo

Taraba State governor's wife, Hauwa Danbaba Suntai, escaped death by the whiskers on Friday.

She was attacked by men of the underworld, who also killed two of her aides.

The incident occurred along Wukari Makurdi Road, which has recently become notorious for armed robbery attacks.

Mrs. Suntai was returning to Jalingo from Abuja after attending an official engagement when she ran into the robbers who opened fire on her convoy.

During the attack, she was shot in the right hand, and was later taken to Wukari General Hospital for treatment.

Though she survived the attack with a severe gunshot injury, some others on her convoy were unlucky –two of them were shot dead.

Those killed were the First Lady's pilot driver and the nurse.

Personal assistant (PA) to the First Lady also sustained injury.

Thirty in number, the robbers laid ambush in Kasuwan Shanu (Cattle Market), about a kilometre from Wukari, headquarters of Wukari Local Government Area, where they launched the attack.

Two of the attackers were, however, killed by a combined team of police and soldiers, which intervened.

Police Commissioner, Richard Chime, told newsmen that his men arrested two of the robbers, and that they were on the trail of those on the run.

The two arrested suspects claimed to be indigenes of the state, adding that some of their gang members had fled to Benue State.

For some months now, the Wukari/Makurdi/Takum Road, besides others in the Southern Taraba, has become notorious for armed robbery attacks. No day passes without a robbery incident in the area.

The state governor, Danbaba Suntai, urged the people of the state to remain calm, in his reaction to the incident.

Security, he assured, was being beefed up.

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