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Four Policemen, 3 Civilian JTF Killed in Bauchi, Adamawa

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Gunmen

By Segun Awofadeji and Daji Sani

Four Policemen have been killed while two others sustained injuries when they were ambushed by gunmen friday along Bauchi -Gombe road.

In similar circumstances, three members of the anti-Boko Haram vigilante popularly called Civilian JTF were killed by gun men in Kasuwa gwari market in Jimeta-Yola, of Adamawa state.

A reliable security source in Bauchi who confirmed the incident said it was 'unfortunate that Police lost four of its men, while on duty, and another two policemen were injured as they were ambushed by yet unidentified gunmen but the police repelled the attack and they hit the gunmen and recovered a gun.

"It is really a sad development but may their souls rest in peace. The Police are not resting on their oars as we will do everything possible to track down these evil men".

Police Public relations Officer DSP Haruna Mohammed neither confirmed nor denied the incident. He said they received a report about the incident 'and we are trying to get the details and brief journalist as soon as this is received'.

Residents of the area and passersby said they heard sporadic gunshots that lasted between 30 minutes to one hour which caused vehicular holdup, pandemonium and confusion among the residents of the area and passersby. One of the residents who pleaded anonymity said ''the attackers damaged Police patrol vehicles but in no time soldiers with armoured personnel carrier and other security personnel were deployed to restore law and order".

Our correspondent who went round the area observed that the situation had been brought under control, while calm had returned but shops remained closed as people stayed indoors for fear. There was sparse vehicular movements in the area.

Eyewitnesses confirmed to THIS DAY that the killing of the civilian JTF took place at about 7pm yesterday at Kasuwa Gwari, where they went to shop.

He said the incident caused fears among the traders and residents of the state which made the city to be tense because the people were trying to run for safety adding that the manner in which the unscrupulous act was perpetrated by the dared-devils had a clear indication that they had a target.

However, the incident led to tightening of security in the state capital as security men were seen cordoning- off areas and vehicle for thorough checking resulting in serious traffic jam especially for those going through the Jimeta Bye- Pass.

According to the eyewitness, the killers trailed the deceased persons to the market and suspects they have informants within the market who might have informed them of the whereabouts of the three people killed.

He said when the gunmen came they went straight to where their targets were and killed them without taking any of their personal effects and boldly left with.

However a cross section of traders who spoke to newsmen at the scene of incident claimed that the three persons killed were believed to be members of Civilian JTF who were at the market to buy goods when they met their untimely dead.

They stressed that the members of the sect were on what they described as a retaliation mission on civilian JTF who were said to have been aiding the military to identify the members of the Boko Haram.

All attempts to get the Brigade Commander of the 23 Armoured Brigade in Yola, Brigadier General, Fatai Ali to respond on the matter proved abortive as the Commander said he was very busy with other things and could not attend to the press at the time of sending this report.

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