Boko Haram kills three policemen in Niger

By <u>Jide Orintunsin</u>, <u>Minna</u> 17/02/2012 01:32:00

Unknown gunmen beleived to be members of the dreaded Boko Haram sect yesterday night struck in Minna, Niger state capital, killing two Policemen attached to Wushishi Housing Estate Police post.

The gunmen rain bullets at the unsuspecting Policemen at the gate of the estate at about 8pm leaving an Inspector and a Sergeant lifeless while a Corporal was critically injured.

The attack in Minna came barely 24 hours after a Corporal was similarly killed by unknown gunmen who attacked Maje Police station, Maje, Suleja local government area of the state.

Residents of Wushishi estate who were outside of their houses ran inside when the gunmen attacked the Policemen, while the sporadic shooting of the gunmen sent fears to residents of neighboring Kafintela area.

Confirming the attack, the Police Public Relations Officer for the state, Mr. Richard Oguche said that the command was yet to ascertain whether the attacks, both at Minna and Maje were carried out by members of the dread Boko Haram sect.

"We are yet to get details of how the gunmen attacked our men.

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Nobody is offering any information now. We pray that the injured corporal, who is now in a critical condition will survive to give us details of the attack," Oguche stated."

When asked if the gunmen robbed anybody in the estate, the Police spokesman said, "we have not recieved any complain that the gunmen robbed anybody. Aside from our men that were attacked."

Oguche who said he arrived the scene of the incident with a patrol team from Tundu Wada Police station few miutes after the attack said, "when we arrived at the estate gate, we met the lifeless bodies of the Inspector and the Sergeant on the floor where they were killed, while a public spirited man helped rushed the injured corporal to hospital. This is coming after yesterday (Wednesday) attack at Maje where a corporal was also shot dead in a similar manner."

Meanwhile the bodies of the slain cops have been deposited at Minna General Hospital mortuary.

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