

Two policemen killed in Taraba

• Explosions in Borno

TWO soldiers and a yet to be specified number of civilians were yesterday killed in Maiduguri after four explosions in the beleaguered Borno State capital.

The explosions occurred at Customs and Bolori - Baga road where a series of blasts occurred last week.

Spokesperson of the Joint Task Force, Lt. Col. Sagir Musa, insisted that the explosions, targeted at a patrol vehicle, killed a civilian and injured three others including a soldier. He denied that soldiers were killed.

Governors of the parties in the All Progressives Congress (APC) were meeting at the Borno State Government House when explosions occurred.

In Taraba State, also in the northeast geo-political zone, gunmen killed two policemen in a failed attempt to abduct some expatriate workers.

Taraba police confirmed that the gunmen attacked a company in a raid on Tella village at a site owned by Triacta Engineering firm. Three Lebanese engineers were working on a bridge project.

But an official from Triacta, who requested anonymity, told AFP that "based on what has been happening, we have every reason to believe that our expatriates were the target".

"It was a clear case of a failed kidnapping," he added.

"Last night, there were shootings around the house where the expatriate construction

From Ablodun Joseph, Maiduguri

workers are living," said resident Yonana Dauda. "Two policemen guarding the house were shot dead."

The company official and other residents confirmed those details, adding that the Lebanese engineers ran when the gunfire broke out and escaped unhurt.

Police spokesman Amos Olaoye said: "There was an incident in Tella last night... details are sketchy."

Police Commissioner, Jibrin Olawole confirmed that the two policemen guarding the residence of PW Road Construction were killed Wednesday night.

Olawole, who briefed the Acting Governor of the state in the Jalingo Government House on the security situation, said the gunmen who came in a Honda Car took away the rifles of the policemen after the incident.

He said the command had beefed up security around all sites where expatriates were executing various construction jobs across the state.

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