

Boko Haram kidnaps 100 girls in attack on hostel

■ Troops launch rescue mission

From Yusuf Alli, Abuja

NIGERIANS, who were struggling to free themselves from the horrific hangover of Monday's suicide bombing, yesterday got another piece of bad news – the abduction of 100 girls at the Girls Senior Secondary School, Chibok, Borno State.

Eye witnesses recalled that the attack was like a scene from an action movie. The gunmen stormed the town in the night, shooting and burning. There was commotion. They then invaded the school where they killed a soldier and a policeman who were on guard.

The girls were preparing for their Senior Secondary School Certificate Examination (SSSCE) when they were forcibly taken away by the gunmen around 3 a.m., *The Nation* learnt.

Chibok is a town close to the boundary between Borno and Adamawa states. It is on the edge of the Sambisa forest – the insurgent Boko Haram's hideout.

The military has ordered troops to rescue the girls, who are believed to have been snatched by Boko Haram fighters. The sect detests Western education. Its name translates to "Western education is a sin".

A resident, Joseph Walama, said the attackers were about 50, who stormed the town in a convoy of Toyota Hilux vehicles before unleashing terror on residents.

"They started arriving the town from about 10 p.m. in a convoy of seven Hilux vehicles and took control of the town. They set fire on residential and public buildings," Walama said.

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DAY OF HORROR IN ABUJA



• House of Representatives Speaker Aminu Tambuwal (right) commiserating with a victim at the National Hospital, Abuja...
PHOTO: ABAYOMI FAYESE

Some of the dead

By Our Reporter

NO official list of victims of Monday's bomb blast in Nyanya on the outskirts of Abuja is available. But the identities of some of the victims were revealed yesterday.

One of them is Aggie Comelius Abba, 32, an employee of the Golden Gate Hotel in Abuja. He was at the park to board an early bus to his office when the explosion occurred.

Abba, a graduate of the University of Maiduguri, lives in Maranba. His brother, Mathias, spoke about him at the Asokoro Hospital yesterday.

A police constable, Friday John Effiong, also died in the blast. He was on his way to work when he was caught up in the

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Goodness... 'she's stable'

From Faith Yahaya, Abuja

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