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Alex Badeh

# Woman suicide bomber hits military barracks

⚠ Posted by: Yusuf Alli, Abuja and Vincent Ohonbamu, Gombe 🖿 in Featured, News 🔘 14 hours ago

Two persons, including a suspected female suicide bomber in Hijab and a soldier, were blown up yesterday in front of a military barracks in Gombe, the Gombe State capital.

Another soldier was injured.

But, sources said no fewer than three soldiers died, when the time bomb went off as the woman approached the Quarter Guard area of the 301 Artillery Regiment, pretending that she wanted to lodge a

She was said to have bombed herself and the three soldiers interrogating her at the entrance.

There were doubts about the suicide bomber's sex following speculations that she was probably a man disguised as a woman in order to enter the barracks.

Last Thursday, the Armoured Personnel Carrier (APC) in front of Governor Ibrahim Dankwambo's residence blew up, killing two security men and injuring six others.

According to a military source, the bomber was on a mission to attack the barracks around 11am.

The source said when the bomber got to the gate, she met a long gueue of vehicles being checked.

The source said: "The insurgents are becoming desperate, they are trying to use female bombers thinking that because of the strict Islamic culture in the North, soldiers would not conduct thorough checks on

"When this female bomber in full veil (Hijab) got to the queue at the barracks, the soldiers on guard insisted on no waiver for any female motorist entering the barracks. It was in the process that the Improvised Explosive Devices (IED) exploded. She got killed instantly.

"Apart from mopping up the area, the military is already investigating the botched suicide mission."

Director of Defence Information, Maj-Gen Chris Olukolade confirmed the attack.

Gen. Olukolade told the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) on telephone that one soldier died while another was wounded in the explosion.

He said normal activities had resumed at the barracks in Gombe.

"Intelligence deduced from credible information earlier received on this plot confirms the vigilance of some members of the public," Gen. Olukolade said.

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He said in a statement: "Troops mounting a security check point at a Barrack entrance in Gombe this morning (yesterday) intercepted a lady suicide bomber while she was attempting to gain entry into the

"The lady suicide bomber who had primed herself with Improvised Explosive Devices (IED) concealed under her Hijab was intercepted when troops acting on intelligence report indicating that a terrorist group was plotting to attack barracks around Gombe using female suicide bombers, halted her and as she was being searched the bomb detonated, killing the lady.

"Unfortunately one of the troops conducting the search also died while another was wounded in the explosion.

"Normal activities have since resumed in the barracks."

Immediately the explosion occurred, soldiers cordoned off the road leading to the barracks.

Also, shops and other business centres were hurriedly shut when the blast occurred as passers-by ran helter-skelter.

A resident, who did not want his name mentioned, told NAN he was in his house around 11.20 a.m. when he heard the blast.

He said he also heard soldiers shooting into the air, apparently to scare people.

The source said he saw some injured persons being conveyed in vehicles from the scene, while soldiers blocked the road and stopped people from going there.

Troops had a bloody encounter with insurgents in Pitta, a boundary town between Adamawa and Borno states on Saturday night, leaving 30 insurgents dead.

The encounter led to the recovery of 25 machine guns, Rocket Propeller Guns (RPGs) and more than 50 motorcycles from the insurgents.

According to Gen. Olukolade, the insurgents wanted to attack some villages along Pitta axis on Saturday, but troops acted on intelligence report and foiled it.

He said: "The troops successfully repelled the insurgents who suffered heavy casualties.

"We have beefed up security in the area to protect all the villages and avert reprisals."





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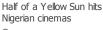


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