

NEWS HEADLINES

2 killed, 1 injured as gunmen attack army checkpoint

📅 19.Jan.2015 | 2 Comments | 👤 Saliu Gbadamosi -Bauchi

ONE soldier and one civilian were, on Sunday afternoon, killed at Takanda-Giwa village on the Bauchi-Jos highway, as some unknown gunmen attacked an army checkpoint in the area, while another civilian was injured.

The attack, Nigerian Tribune gathered, caused panic on the highway, as motorists coming from either Bauchi or Jos were forced to abandon their vehicles and ran for safety.

Unconfirmed report had it that about five soldiers were killed in the operation, while the attackers made away with the soldiers' Toyota Hilux van parked at the checkpoint.

But it could not be confirmed if any of the attackers lost their lives in the exchange of fire with the soldiers.

However, a military source informed that only one soldier, who was a driver, was killed in the attack, while the civilian was caught in the crossfire between soldiers on duty and the gunmen.

The source added that Sunday's attack by the gunmen was a retaliatory attack, as security personnel had been chasing the gunmen for sometimes now.

He revealed that only on Saturday, security operatives chased the gunmen from one area to the other.

The source, who would not want to be named, however, declared that the army and their security agencies were on top of the situation.

According to him, more personnel had been deployed in the area to pursue the fleeing gunmen.

Nigerian Tribune learnt that security operatives were conducting stop and search on the highway, with a view to finding the runaway gunmen, while normalcy had been restored on the road.

A traveller, who pleaded not to be named, coming from Abuja to Bauchi, on Sunday, told the Nigerian Tribune that shortly after passing Toro, headquarters of Toro Local Government Area of Bauchi State, they started hearing gunshots.

She added that they met many vehicles coming from the Jos end of the highway parked on the road, while passengers disembarked to take cover.

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