

12 killed, 18 injured in Maiduguri attacks

THE police command in Borno State said, on Monday, that a total of 12 persons were killed while 18 others sustained various degrees of injury in multiple suicide bomb attacks in Maiduguri.

The Commissioner of Police, Mr Damian Chukwu, made this known while confirming the attack at a news briefing in Maiduguri. Chukwu said the death toll included four female suicide bombers.

The commissioner, however, disclosed that soldiers deployed to Mammanti and Cimeri areas, foiled an attempt by three other female suicide bombers to penetrate Maiduguri metropolis.

He said two of the attackers were intercepted and killed by soldiers at about 11:59 p.m., on Sunday at Mammanti Village in Konduga Local Government Area.

Chukwu said the military also intercepted and killed one suicide bomber who tried to enter Maiduguri at Cimeri area of Mafa Local Government.

He said the fourth suicide bomber detonated the explosive strapped on her body at a mosque at about 4:30 a.m. in London Ciki area on the outskirts of Maiduguri.

"The suicide bomber detonated IED, blew herself up and killed eight persons.

"Security operatives have foiled three of the attempted suicide bomb attacks while only one of them carried out the attack and all the four suicide bombers were killed in the attack."

Chukwu added that all the attacks occurred on the outskirts of the metropolis.

According to him, those wounded in the attacks were rushed to the University of Maiduguri Teaching Hospital.

The commissioner reiterated the command's commitment to protecting lives and property, urging the people to be vigilant and provide useful information

to security agencies.

Chukwu added that the command had adopted other practical steps to enhance security and check further suicide bomb attacks in the state.

Meanwhile, a mob, on Monday, attacked officials of the Borno State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA), who were on rescue mission at the scene of a suicide bomb attack in

Maiduguri, the state capital.

The News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) reported that the incident occurred at Londonciki-Simari area of Maiduguri, where a female suicide bomber attacked a

mosque killing eight worshippers, while 15 others sustained injuries.

The youth, who attacked the SEMA Emergency Rapid Response team, dispatched to evacuate corpses

and render assistance to the blast victims, were said to be angered by the recent spate of suicide bombings in Maiduguri.

Some of them chanted slogans against relief officials, saying "leave, we do not need your assistance."

The youth, armed with club and sticks, smashed one of SEMA's vehicles and prevented the team from carrying out its mission.

It took the intervention of members of the Civilian Joint Task Force (CJTF) to rescue the SEMA officials.

An official of the state emergency agency, who pleaded anonymity, confirmed the incident, but said only their vehicle was damaged.

NAN learnt that the residents of the area had tried to apprehend the suicide bomber who was looking suspicious, but she ran into the mosque and detonated the explosive strapped on her body.

A witness, Mallam Muhammad Grema, who said he lost some of his friends in the attack, told NAN that the incident occurred at about 5:00a.m.

Meanwhile, two female suicide bombers, who attempted to cross the security trenches at about 10:15p.m on Sunday, were killed at Mammanti area on the outskirts of Maiduguri.

Soldiers guarding the trenches shot the women as a result of which the explosive strapped to their bodies detonated, blowing them into pieces.



The mosque hit by a suspected female suicide bomber during an early morning prayer at Londonciki-Simari area of Maiduguri, Borno State, on Monday. PHOTO: NAN

Army discovers new Boko Haram base in Chad,

preparing for 'final onslaught'

The Nigerian army has sent a task force battalion under the command of Major General...

The statement also stated that O.P. Oyekoke, the commanding officer of the battalion, earlier outlined the tasks being carried out by troops of the battalion.

Antigha added, in the statement, that the final phase of the onslaught on the insurgents was "evident."

have said.

text to offer a full and adequate response.

"As a public relations goon for the former National Security Adviser, Sambo Dasuki, the author did not surprise anyone by dismissing the acclaimed successes of the Muhammadu Buhari administration in the fight against Boko Haram, claiming that this government simply took the glory for the achievements of the previous government in the war against terrorism.

"For those interested in the

under special arrangements made by INEC.

"Since the Buhari administration came into power, however, many of those residents have returned to their homes and Boko Haram eradicated from their areas.

In many of these areas, institutions such as schools, police stations, markets and courts have been reestablished or in the process of being reestablished.

"Despite Mr. Dasuki's attempt to rewrite history, Nigerians could not have

arms procurement scandal and ensure that no single one of the culprits goes scot free.

"The truth, as a matter of fact, is that the monster of terrorism got bigger and more daring due to the incompetence and mis-governance of the last administration and no amount of lies and fiction can change that."

The foreword said to have been written by Dasuki from his detention facility is to a 308-page new book entitled: "Boko Haram Media War-An Encounter with the Snmas-

LEON USIGBE - ABUJA

THE Presidency, on Monday, chastised detained former National Security Adviser (NSA), Colonel Sambo Dasuki, over claims made in a foreword to a book where he maintained that military intervention in the North-East in 2015 enabled the last general election to be conducted in the area.

In a statement signed by the Senior Special Assistant

to the President on Media and Publicity, Garba Shehu, in Abuja, the Presidency stressed that the claim that the President Goodluck Jonathan's administration cleared the area of Boko Haram insurgents at the time to enable election to hold there was untrue and should be dismissed.

"The superlative claims by the former National Security Adviser, Colonel Sambo Dasuki that the Goodluck Jonathan administration cleared the North-East of