

Two killed, market woman shot as hoodlums attack anti-narcotic agents in Jalingo

③ Seven officers injured —NDLEA

Terna Chikpa | Jalingo

NO fewer than two persons suspected to be drug dealers were on Tuesday evening killed by operatives of the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) in Jalingo Taraba state.

An eyewitness, Mr. Tarhour Memga, who is the chairman of yam sellers association at the popular ATC market Jalingo, where the incident occurred, explained that the hoodlums attacked the NDLEA personnel on operation and were making efforts to disarm them before their

action turned bloody.

He said the sporadic shooting of the NDLEA personnel in defence against the hoodlums also affected a yam seller identified as Miss Abisala, who is currently receiving treatment in a hospital in Jalingo.

"The hoodlums attacked the NDLEA officers right in our presence. They were trying to disarm the personnel so that they could free a drug dealer who was arrested.

"In the process, they smashed the official Hilux van of the officers and were making all efforts to disarm

them before the officers started shooting at them.

"Two of the hoodlums were killed on the spot and a stray bullet also hit one of my market associates, and she is now in the hospital," Memga narrated.

However, while reacting to the incident, the NDLEA director of media and advocacy, Mr Femi Babafemi, said the operatives of the anti-narcotics agency came under attack at Nukai market, along Jalingo-Wukari road, after arresting a notorious drug dealer identified as Micha Godwin.

Babafemi said in a state-

ment on Wednesday that, operatives of the agency on Tuesday stormed the market at about 2.30pm to arrest the drug dealer and evacuate illicit substances in his warehouse.

Soon after the arrest of Micha, he said, miscreants mobilised from the community to attack the officers and vehicles with dangerous weapons.

Babafemi added that a reinforcement from the state command of the agency and other security agencies was able to rescue the operatives from the scene of attack.