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Boko Haram kills two policemen in Kaduna

By Segun Olatunji, Kaduna

Wednesday, 2 Mar 2011

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L-R: Kaduna State Governor, Patrick Yakowa, IG, Hafiz Ringim

Suspected armed members of the dreaded **Boko Haram** Islamic sect on Monday night in Kaduna besieged the private residence of a Divisional Police Officer, Mustapha Sandamu, and killed two **policemen**

guarding his house.

The suspected **Boko Haram** gunmen also took away the rifles of the two murdered **policemen**.

Last year, the immediate past Commissioner of Police, Kaduna State Command, Mr. Mohammed Tambari, had raised the alarm that the **Boko Haram** sect might have infiltrated the densely populated Rigasa area.

Tambari had then warned that the state might soon begin to witness the kind of killings being carried out by the group in states such as Borno and Bauchi.

Eyewitnesses however said that the suspected gunmen had arrived at the Abuja Road, Rigasa residence of the DPO of Magajin Gari Police Station on Monday at about 9pm on a motorcycle.

It was gathered that the two gunmen dressed in flowing robes apparently to conceal their automatic weapons, immediately opened fire on the **policemen** on guard and instantly killed them.

Sandamu told journalists on Tuesday that he heard sound of gunshots shortly after he entered his apartment and having given food to the two **policemen** on guard in his house.

He added that after the gunfire had ceased, some of the residents in the area rushed into his house to inform him of the incident.

The DPO said that when he rushed outside with the other neighbours, he met the two **policemen** lying in a pool of blood.

Sandamu said, "When I heard the loud bang, I thought the sound was from the high tension wire or a nearby transformer that exploded. I was later alerted that some hoodlums had engaged my security men, shooting sporadically outside my house.

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"They came on a motorcycle; one of them wearing Babariga stopped and opened fire on the unsuspected **policemen**. The two police corporals were rushed to the Barau Dikko Hospital where they were rejected and referred to 44 Army Reference Hospital.

"They were again rejected there, too and referred to Saint Gerald's or Ahmadu Bello University Teaching Hospital, Shika. The two of them finally died at Saint Gerald's Catholic Hospital around 12 midnight.

"The hoodlums left bullet holes on the walls of my house, the chair where the **policemen** were sitting and my car, an End of Discussion parked outside."

The DPO, however, declined to reveal the names of the murdered **policemen**, saying, "The two of them are corporals and I do not know their names since I have so many of them working under me.

"Our job is to protect lives and property of our citizens, while our own lives are only protected by God. I want you to note that I am speaking in my capacity as a victim in this incident. The official response should be got from the spokesperson of the police or the commissioner of police himself."

Confirming the incident, the command's Police Public Relations Officer, Aminu Lawal, described the killing of the **policemen** as unfortunate.

Aminu, a deputy superintendent of police, however denied that the gunmen, who killed the two **policemen**, were members of the **Boko Haram** sect.

He said that it was unfortunate that the command had lost two men in an exchange of gunfire with suspected hoodlums.

Aminu said, "But we remain optimistic that the suspects will be caught and brought to book soon. Though they operated in **Boko Haram** style, they are not **Boko** Harram members.

"They are bandits. The **policemen** returned fire and we believe they escaped with some gunshot wounds."

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- how even on earth did the police force started,when, where, why.....cos i don't know this force can be our friend.

Posted by: emmanuel , on Wednesday, March 02, 2011

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- if it were in the military this officer would have lost is respect as he is a coward,he does not know the sound of the report of AK47 ,he is a coward..how can he call that transformer

Posted by: tim , on Wednesday, March 02, 2011

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- Just imagine, PPRO without investigation that they are not members of **Boko Haram**.

Posted by: Gabriel , on Wednesday, March 02, 2011

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