

Gunmen kill four policemen, others in Gombe

GUNMEN attacked a police station and two banks in Gombe, killing at least four policemen, amid a wave of violence blamed on Boko Haram, authorities said on Thursday.

The attacks rocked the town of Ashaka in Gombe state late Wednesday and where the gunmen also used explosives, said police spokesman Ahmed Mohammed.

"There were coordinated bomb and gun attacks on a divisional police station and two banks in Ashaka town last night," Mohammed told *AFP*.

"The police station was completely burnt down by the attackers using explosives. The two banks were also badly damaged.

"We have lost four men in the attacks, including the divisional police officer," he said.

He said an investigation had been opened and it was not yet clear who was behind the violence, though scores of such attacks have been attributed to Boko Haram, which has killed hundreds in shootings and bombings.

However, Reuters quoted Mohammed as saying three civilians also lost their lives in the attack.

"Four policemen, including the DPO (district police officer), and three others were killed," he said.