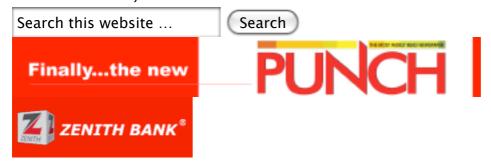
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DIG, three others killed in surveillance helicopter crash

March 14, 2012 by Agency Reporter <u>59 Comments</u>

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A police surveillance helicopter crashed in Jos on Wednesday, killing the Deputy Inspector-General of Police (Operations), Mr. Haruna John, and three others.

The Commissioner of Police in Plateau State, Mr. Dipo Ayeni, confirmed the incident.

He said the DIG's orderly, the pilot and an engineer were also killed when it crashed into a house at Kabong on the outskirts of Jos.

The helicopter was on its way from Jos to Abuja and crashed near a school.

Witnesses said they watched the helicopter as it appeared to stall in the air before heading downwards.

An eyewitness said the helicopter crashed into a house, where a baby was confirmed injured, while an unspecified number of casualties were rushed to Air Force Military Hospital, Jos.

He was decorated only last week in Abuja.

NAN learnt that the helicopter was deployed for surveillance over hot spots in Jos, following renewed hostilities in the area.

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The Plateau State Government immediately cancelled its weekly State Executive Council meeting after receiving news of the accident.

Haruna was the Commissioner of Police for Benue State before he was promoted to DIG.

He had also been CP in Kaduna State and Federal Capital Territory before his recent promotion to DIG, following the appointment of Mohammed Abubakar as the Acting Inspector-General of Police.

More details later.



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