

Family kicks as soldier kills policeman with anti-aircraft gun in Borno

Published [February 8, 2020](#)



Chief of Army Staff, Lt. Gen. Tukur Buratai

Alexander Okere with agency report

An Army corporal has reportedly killed a mobile police officer, one Sergeant Rowland Tafida, with an anti-aircraft gun after an altercation at Makara, in the Gwoza Local Government Area of Borno State.

Tafida, said to be among the MOPOL Special Forces team deployed in Gwoza last August on counter-insurgency operations, was allegedly killed by the unidentified military officer over a woman, according to PRNigeria.

The deceased was also said to be preparing to complete his six month anti-terrorism operation on February 8, 2020, before he was hit by a stray bullet.

When contacted, the Force spokesman, DCP Frank Mba said, “We are aware and investigation has commenced into the incident.”

However, the online medium said the army corporal, who had a disagreement with another police officer, had asked a driver of an anti-aircraft gun Hilux belonging to his military base to aim at the Limankara Police Training Camp.

It quoted an eyewitness, who pleaded not to be named, to have said, “Some people intervened and settled the matter when the aggrieved Army corporal asked a driver of an anti-aircraft gun Hilux belonging to his military base, to directly face the Limankara Police Training Camp. Immediately after turning the vehicle, they opened fire and shot at the camp’s facility.

“It was at that moment, Rowland Tafida, the late police sergeant, was killed by a stray bullet because he was not involved in the earlier altercation. The blast of the anti-aircraft vehicle totally disfigured his left leg as he was returning to the camp after he went to charge his phone somewhere.

“The young MOPOL officer could have survived the terrible assault, but nobody could take him to a medical facility as he was in his own pool of blood, bleeding profusely. He bled to death.”

Other police officers at the Limankara camp were said to have staged a protest against the killing of their colleague by the soldier before the intervention of an Army major.

PRNigeria quoted another source to have said, “It was the Army major that came out to beg the aggrieved MOPOL personnel. He was the one who restored order and normalcy; otherwise, mayhem would have erupted. After begging the police officers, the major arrested the ‘killer’ corporal, and thereafter, the Army Theatre Command contacted the Borno Police Command.”

Meanwhile, a relative of the deceased, Mrs Zwancit Dazang, told *PRNigeria* the late policeman’s family had yet to be informed about his death.

Dazang said, “We only got to know about our son’s tragic death in the social media. He was dressed in combat boots, jeans and a MOPOL T-shirt, with his rifle strapped on his shoulder, when he was shot.”

“The anti-aircraft truck, which is lethal ammunition, has the ability to bring down a plane or helicopter from the sky. This is a dangerous firearm that can even destroy an armored tank. That a soldier will use it to eliminate an innocent, but a fellow security officer like him, is unimaginable.”

“A vibrant police officer, with a very young family, in a twinkle of an eye, was deliberately killed, his life wasted just like that. What was his fault? He wasn’t killed while fighting terrorists but by a soldier while walking, unprovoked and also did not provoked anyone. So, why take his life? That is barbaric, and wicked.”

She added, “As I speak to you now, the late Rowland’s wife is emotionally-broken. She has not seen her husband for so long. And both she and their two lovely daughters aged five and two years, respectively, were looking forward to a reunion with their husband and father before this unavoidable tragedy struck.”

“What has Rowland done for anyone to take his life? The soldier who killed Rowland must be brought to book.”