

23 killed in Borno, Sokoto terror attacks

ISAH OJO and ANIMASAHUN SALMAN

NO fewer than 23 people lost their lives in separate incidents across Borno and Sokoto states, following a series of terrorist and bandit attacks.

Tragedy struck in Sokoto State, where 10 people drowned in a boat mishap while fleeing from bandit attacks in Zalla Bango, a remote village in Sabon Birni Local Government Area.

Another six villagers were killed in Kwanar Kimba, also in Sabon Birni, Sokoto State.

The lawmaker representing Kwanar Kimba area of the State House of Assembly, Sa'idu Ibrahim, confirmed that six villagers were killed in the Tuesday attack.

According to him, the residents had attempted to resist the assailants, sparking a confrontation that left six people dead before the bandits eventually fled.

He added that he had visited the community to commiserate with the bereaved families.

Meanwhile, in Borno, Boko Haram terrorists stormed Banki community in Bama Local Government Area on Thursday night, killing five residents and injuring six others.

The Information Officer of Bama Local Government,

Babagana Abatcha, confirmed the Borno attack, noting that the insurgents rode in on motorcycles.

"The terrorists attacked the community on Thursday night and killed five, injuring six," Abatcha said.

He explained that the injured were receiving treatment in Cameroonian hospitals and noted that the Local Government Chairman, Modu Gujja, had visited the victims' families with financial support.

"On behalf of the state Governor, Babagana Zulum, the local government chairman immediately visited the community and donated N500,000 each to families of those killed in the attack," he

added.

Residents, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the military was overwhelmed by the sudden assault.

"The military tried their best, but as you know, it was an unexpected attack. They wreaked havoc before sufficient military deployment," one source said.

Another resident said many locals fled into neighbouring Cameroon, fearing further incursions.

"People are scared they will return. Recall that just last week they attacked Darajamal, which is not far from here. Who knows their next target? This shows the terrorists are regrouping across Bama

community," the resident said.

In a separate incident in Sokoto, suspected members of the Lakurawa bandit group killed Mallam Murtala Sa'adu, 47, the village head of Sanyinna, and his neighbour, Ibrahim Mai-Kudi, in Tangaza Local Government Area.

Confirming the killings, Special Adviser to the Council Chairman, Garzali Raccah, said the assailants struck around 1:30 a.m. on Thursday, targeting the victims for their roles in supporting local vigilante groups.

"Their involvement with vigilante groups angered the bandits, who had long warned against such participation," Raccah explained.

One dies in Kaduna arms factory explosion

IMOLEAYO OYEDEYI

THE military on Saturday confirmed that one person was killed, while several others sustained injuries in an explosion that occurred at the Defence Industries Corporation of Nigeria arms factory in Kaduna.

DICON, in a statement signed by its Public Relations Officer, Maria Sambo, said the incident occurred at about 10 am at the Ordnance Factory Disposal Pit located in the Kakuri Industrial

Area of Kaduna South Local Government.

"On Saturday, September 20, 2025, at about 10 am, an explosion occurred at DICON Ordnance Factory Disposal pit, killing one person and injuring others," the statement said.

The corporation explained that the blast was triggered during an ongoing exercise to dispose of expired raw materials stored in old bunkers.

"Some old storage bunkers used to store Raw Materials for production contained several expired materials

for production which have exceeded their lifespans, including a large quantity of Ammonia Nitrates, Primer Caps, Propellants and others," DICON disclosed.

According to the statement, efforts had been ongoing since July to safely dispose of the expired explosives.

"DICON had earlier initiated efforts since July 2025 to ensure the controlled disposal of these expired items and successfully destroyed all the Ammonia Nitrates and the majority of other items.

"However, the unfortunate accident of the explosion occurred while specialists were concluding the destruction of the remaining quantity of the expired items at the disposal pit on Saturday, 20 September 2025," it added.

The corporation confirmed that the victims of the accident are its personnel.

"The injured DICON staff are currently receiving treatment at 44 Nigerian Army Reference Hospital, Kaduna, while the body of the deceased Personnel has been deposited at the mortuary," the statement read.

Oyo police detain driver with illegal firearms

GABRIEL OSHOKHA with agency report

THE Oyo State Police Command has arrested a driver with unlicensed firearms in Ibadan, the state capital.

The command's Police Public Relations Officer, Adewale Osifeso, disclosed this to journalists in a statement on Friday.

According to the statement, the arrest was aided by the successful implementation of intelligence-driven stop-and-

search operations on highways, primary roads and essential intersections within the state.

"These efforts have yielded significant results, greatly increasing community safety and security," the statement read.

It added, "On Thursday, September 18, 2025, at approximately 9:11 pm, a team from the Federal Highway Patrol conducted a stop-and-search at the Toll Gate on the Lagos-Ibadan Expressway in Ibadan.

"During this operation,

a Toyota bus (registration number AFZ 933 XA) was stopped, and upon searching the vehicle, officers discovered several illegal items, including two locally-made single-barrelled firearms, two brand new short stainless-steel machetes, and 20 live cartridges.

"The driver was unable to provide a valid driving licence or the necessary vehicle documentation at the time of the arrest, and has been taken into custody along with the bus."