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20 feared killed in Bauchi bomb blast

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BY OUR REPORTER ON NOVEMBER 8, 2014

COVER

From Paul Orude, Bauchi

It was yet another black Friday in Bauchi State when a bomb blast occurred at a commercial bank in Azare, the second largest town in the state killing scores and injuring many. An eyewitness said that the bomb blast occurred at the Automated Teller Machine (ATM) point within the bank premises as customers were queuing to make withdrawals at 10am.

He said that eight people were killed on the spot but the death toll rose to over 20 minutes later with over 40 others injured. Mostly affected were Bauchi State civil servants who were waiting to collect their salaries.

Saturday Sun learnt that the device was planted within the bank premises and exploded as customers including workers and people from Misau, Shira, Giade and Potiskum in Yobe State lined up at the bank to withdraw their monthly salaries.

"There are only three ATMs in three banks that are working in the whole of Azare and so many customers usually gather there," a source who asked for anonymity told *Saturday Sun*.

The incident is coming exactly two weeks after another bomb exploded at a busy motor park in Azare killing 12 and injuring 46.

The casualty in the latest incident was said to have been high because people ran to the scene of the explosion only to be victims as the second bomb exploded as they were watching.

It was learnt that two men walked up to the ATM and pretended to withdraw money and shortly after dropped the object and left the scene.

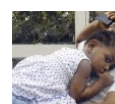
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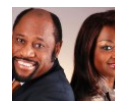
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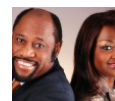
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"As it exploded, killing many people by the ATM, another one exploded as people were running to the scene," a resident of Azare who was not far from the scene said.

FROM PAUL ORUDE, BAUCHI

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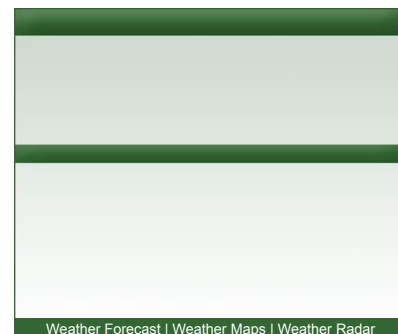
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