a shoot-out, the suspects were shot dead, while a pistol and carstormed the scene and exchanged fire with the armed were not targeted at policemen alone, "but extended to other government agencies and their staff.

## 2 female bombers, 3 others die in Borno

From Timothy Olanrewaju, Maiduguri

**TWO** female bombers targeting football viewing centres and cinema hall in Maiduguri, Borno State, have blown themselves up at a local comuninity, killing three people.

Residents of Goleri, a remote community located about two kilometres from Maiduguri, said sporadic gunshots from another nearby community preceded the explosions at about 6.30pm Tuesday.

Village Head of Goleri, Bulama Gole told journalists that the gunshots emanating from another village called Mammanti caused panic among the residents, forcing people to be fleeing.

"It was in the course of this panic that we saw two strange ladies seated under a Neem tree. We asked who and what they were looking for, but they couldn't give satisfactory answer. We became suspicious of their intentions when they started asking for direction to a film house (cinema hall)," he disclosed.

He said the devices on one of the ladies later exploded as she moved away from the tree.

The second bomber, who hid beside a vehicle parked around the area also exploded as soon as soldiers and other security personnel arrived at the scene. Two people and the two bombers died on the spot while six people were injured, residents said. One of the six injured died later in the hospital.

The Commissioner of Police, Damian Chukwu, confirmed the incident and casualties to newsmen. He said the suicide bombers accessed the village through Mammanti, another community. "The bombers were asking for film houses," he disclosed.

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