

Woman, 2 children blow selves up in failed suicide bombing

March 4, 2017 Ndubuisi Ugah



The multiple explosions that rocked Borno State yesterday killed a woman and two children and destroyed three petrol trucks at M Baba filling station, opposite Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) Quarters along the NNPC depot on Damboa Road in Maiduguri.

The state's Police Command confirmed the casualty and expressed joy that no person was killed aside the three suicide bombers. The state's Commissioner of Police, Mr. Damian Chukwu, said: "About seven trucks loaded with petrol were parked in a vicinity while there was also a bus and a Volkswagen saloon car and a coaster."

He told the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) in Maiduguri that, "three suspected suicide bombers comprising an adult male and two teenage girls laced with explosives sneaked to the place and found their way into the clusters of the vehicles". "They detonated their explosives one after the other after attaching themselves each to a truck," he said.

He said the three trucks exploded with the fuel inside, "and the bombers were roasted to death and the trucks destroyed". "The fortunate thing is that only the bombers died, no other person was lost.

We got there on time and with the help of the fire service were able to evacuate the remaining vehicles and relocate them to a safe place on time," the commissioner said.

He advised residents to be more vigilant by reporting strange happenings around them to law enforcement agents nearest to them. Residents should collaborate

with security agents by sharing vital information on suspicious movements, he said. "I want to appeal to the people to be vigilant and be wary of happenings and people around them."

He said it was necessary to prevent loss of lives and property associated with suicide attacks in the state. “One will expect that the terrorists will resort to this kind of thing because the military have driven them out of their Sambisa stronghold.

“They are now using guerrilla warfare, which is their usual style,” he said. Chukwu said the police were collaborating with other law enforcement agencies to ensure total peace in the nearest future.

Also speaking, the spokesman of the command, Mr Victor Isuku, in an interview in Maiduguri, said: “Our men are still working at the scene of the blasts.”

An eyewitness, Malam Abubakar Kaumi, told journalists at the scene that the blast occurred around 3 a.m. “A woman suspected to be a suicide bomber walking alongside two girls came round the depot.

They detonated their explosives near some petrol tankers parked there, and destroyed the three vehicles. “Gladly, nobody was closed by, so, only the three bombers died,” Kaumi said. An official of the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), Malam Ab-dul ibrahim also confirmed the report.

“Three suspected suicide bombers detonated their explosives along Damboa road, Maiduguri, in the early hours of yesterday, destroying three petrol tankers parked near the NNPC depot,” Ibrahim said. He also said the fire cause by the explosion had been brought under control while rescue effort were ongoing.