

Boko Haram kills 3 UN aid workers, 8 others in Borno



Published 2 days ago on March 3, 2018

By **Ndubuisi uguh and Hassan Jirgi**



... one abducted as UN condemns killing

- **Female suicide bomber kills self, injures 2 in Yobe**

In a renewed onslaught on Maiduguri, the Borno State capital, the outlawed Boko Haram sect in a Thursday night attack reportedly killed 11 people, including three United Nations aid workers at Rann community in Kala Balge Local Government Area of the state. In the wake of the attack, a female aid worker was also reported to be missing while one other sustained injuries in the attack which marks the latest high-profile attack by militants in the northeast. This is coming less than two weeks after militants abducted 110 schoolgirls from a

school in the town of Dapchi in neighbouring Yobe State. Also yesterday, a female suicide bomber reportedly killed herself and injured two others when a bomb wrapped on her exploded in front a mosque in Fulatari Ward of Buni Yadi, Gubja Local Government Area of Yobe State.

The News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) gathered that the injured persons were taken to hospital and were in stable condition. Confirming the killing of the four aid workers, Head of Communications, UNICEF Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), Samantha Newport, told the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) yesterday in Maiduguri, that two of the deceased were personnel of UN client organisation, International Organisation of Migration (IOM), deployed in Rann as camp managers.

She added that others killed were a medical doctor working as consultant with UNICEF and an aid worker with International Committee of Red Cross (ICRC) affiliate organisation, stressing that it had concern that other civilians might have been killed or injured. Newport, who said a female nurse was abducted, while another female aid worker was injured in the attack, explained that all the deceased personnel were Nigerians. Competent sources in Rann told NAN that the insurgents attacked the town at 7 p.m. on Thursday.

She disclosed that two of the deceased aid workers were contractors with International Organisation for Migration (IOM) working as coordinators in the camp

for 55,000 Internally Displaced Persons who fled their homes as a result of the ongoing insurgency in the area.

The source added that the insurgents, moving on gun trucks and motorcycles, infiltrated the town and attacked a military base and a displaced persons' camp. Reports said four soldiers and four police officers were also killed, according to the Nigerian security reports seen by an online news portal, Reuters. The militants, armed with rocket-propelled grenades and truck-mounted guns, initially overpowered soldiers in a firefight at the military facility but the armed forces later regained control, according to the two reports. Though the military authorities was yet to comment on it, the spokesman for the 3 Division, Nigeria Army, Col. Kayode Ogunsanya, could not be reached for comments as his phone was switched off. Expressing regret over the killings, the UN Humanitarian Coordinator in Nigeria, Mr. Edward Kallon, condemned the murder of the three UN aid workers.

Kallon said: "The aid workers put their lives on the line every single day to provide emergency assistance to vulnerable women, children and men. "Our deepest condolences go to the families of the victims and our brave colleagues and we call on authorities to ensure the perpetrators are brought to justice. Now in its ninth year, the crisis shows no sign of abating," he added.