

Borno: Boko Haram kills three soldiers, two CJTF members

At least three soldiers and two members of the Civilian Joint Task Force (CJTF) were killed in an ambush by Boko Haram members on Gajiram-Monguno Road, Borno State on Saturday.

Others were wounded in the attack.

The military personnel and members of the CJTF were on their way to their base at Baga in Kukawa Local Government Area, when they came under heavy attack by Boko Haram faction of the ISWAP in five gun trucks.

The attack came a few hours after Governor Babagana Zulum visited Baga on a working visit where he supported the newly resettled Baga community with food items.

A CJTF member, who escaped the ambush, told PRNigeria that a heavy fight ensued with the terrorists for more than one hour as the military sent reinforcement.

According to him, some terrorists were killed.

He said: "The insurgents shot two of our Civilian Joint Task Force members and three soldiers. Several others were wounded including one inside my truck. The troops of Sector

3 Headquarters from Monguno were quickly deployed in repelling the ambush and killed some of the terrorists.

"We are not part of the governor's entourage. You know the Civilian JTF were newly enlisted to join the military in the front line by complimenting their efforts to fight Boko Haram. So we were returning to our base when we fell into the ambush."

PRNigeria also learnt that the governor's entourage, comprising senior government officials and security advanced team, had arrived Baga town about 10am on Saturday while the governor was flown into the town with a helicopter for the official visit.

Meanwhile, the state government has denied a media report on an attack on the convoy of Governor Zulum.

The governor's spokesperson, Malam Isa Gusau, in

a statement issued yesterday, said Zulum travelled to Baga and spent a day supervising the distribution of food and other relief to thousands of residents and returned to Maiduguri safely with no hitch whatsoever.

He said: "For the record, we write to quickly clarify that contrary to a 'breaking news' by an online news medium, Governor Babagana Umara Zulum was neither attacked nor was any component of his convoy attacked by anyone.

"The governor was actually in Baga from Saturday to Sunday, during which he supervised the distribution of food and cash support to 5,000 residents and he assessed major reconstruction and resettlement efforts with no hitch whatsoever. While we continually accord respect to all media organisations as supportive partners, we importantly clarify that we have no knowledge of the 'breaking news' in question."



Boko Haram members