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Kaduna: Again, Bomb Explosion Kills 2, Injures 6

From George Oji in Kaduna, 10.30.2008

For the second time in two months, another bomb explosion has rocked the Kachia military range killing two teenage boys and seriously injuring six others. The explosion took place at the weekend. The victims of the bomb explosion were reported to have gone into the shooting range to pick some scrap metals following the recent fire power demonstration tagged EXERCISE VULCAN GLOW II by the Nigerian Army Corps of Artillery (NACA).

During the August annual field exercise by the Corps of Artillery, the Commandant, Nigerian Army School of Artillery (NASA), Kachia, Brig-General Mike Nasamu had enjoined the paramount ruler of the area, Agwom Adara, Maiwada Galadima to warn his subjects not to allow their children and wards to stray into the restricted area.

According to the commandant, even the officers and men of the Army dread going into the highly dangerous area for fear of bomb explosions, stressing, "some exploded bombs are still scattered in the shooting range and can explode if tampered with."

"But eye witness account stated that despite the stern warning by the paramount ruler, the teenage boys stray into the shooting range in the morning of the fateful day to pick some aluminium scraps from the bombs.

A couple of months ago, a teenage boy lost his life when he went into the shooting range to pick scrap metals to sell. Consequently, two of them met their untimely death while the six others were seriously burnt as a result of the bomb explosions. The injured teenagers are presently receiving treatment at Kachia hospital. Officials of the State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) together with the officers and men of the Artillery evacuated the victims from the scene of the tragedy.

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