

Boko Haram Kills 4, Robs Bank in Maiduguri

Suspected members of extremist Islamist sect, Boko Haram killed four people yesterday in Borno State when they robbed a bank and stormed a police station.

The gunmen killed two people during a raid on a bank in Askira town in the

early hours of the day before attacking the local police station, where an officer and a civilian were shot dead, local government spokesman Malam Yuthama said.

The strikes come less than two days after suspected sect members freed 14 peo-

ple in a prison break in neighbouring Yobe State and attacked a nearby police station. Three members of Boko Haram died during those attacks, the local police said..

Months of gun and bomb attacks blamed on the sect have killed hundreds since it launched an uprising more than two years ago to try to carve out an Islamic state in Nigeria.

Nigerian forces have been carrying out house-to-house searches this week in the sect's home town of Maiduguri, the capital of Borno state. Similar crack-downs in the past have pushed attacks into neighbouring states, including Yobe.

One of Boko Haram's primary demands is that its members are freed from prison. While the government has refused any releases. There have been several jail breaks in the northeast in the last year.

Urges New Rivers CP to Hold on Peace, Security

"If the stories we read about you are anything to go by, it is my belief that you would do same," he added.

Amachi also encouraged the new Police boss to work hard to meet the expectations of the State government and all Rivers people and even perform better than his predecessor.

He said of the former police commissioner, Suleiman Abba: "He discouraged bribe taking amongst policemen and led by example by not tak-

ing bribe. He was contented with what he had. He ensured that kidnapping was reduced, he fought robbery and ensured that we maintained security."

He also urged the new police boss to inculcate discipline amongst officers in the state police command.

The governor further appealed to the new Police boss to take inventory of Police assets in the state while urging him to maintain police vehicles to fight crime in the state.

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