

JTF Kills Boko Haram Member

The Joint Task Force (JTF), Operation Restore Order in Borno State raided a suspected hideout of members of the Boko Haram sect within Maiduguri yesterday killing its member during exchange of gunfire.

However, a gang of four suspected armed robbers also killed a Police Inspector, Mr. Adamu Saidu, and a 20-year-old boy, Sanusi Labaran, at Mama area of Sokoto metropolis.

This incident was communicated to journalists in Maiduguri in a press statement by the spokesman of the JTF, Lt. Col. Sagir Musa.

Musa said the task force raided the hideout of the suspected sect members in Gomboru ward, within Maiduguri at about 5:35a.m yesterday, following a tip off from concern citizens.

The siege on the hideout, he said, led to the killing of the suspect sect members during the gun duel of the sect with the military, which lasted for some minutes.

According to Musa: "The operation led to massive exchange of fire that killed the suspect while two AK47 rifles, 1623 round of 7.62mm Nato, 32 round of

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in Maiduguri and Mohammed
Aminu in Sokoto*

7.62mm special ammunition were recovered in the hideout."

He also disclosed that at about 2:30a.m a Chadian national was arrested in Sinimari area trying to steal an installed generator set.

The spokesman said when a search was conducted in his hideout, where the following items were recovered by the JTF, 10 cartons of uncoupled motor bike, four cartons of motorbike engine blocks, a television, a standing fan, a stabiliser, five DVD player, an amplifier, a bag of handset, a carton of indomie, 75 packets of SIM cards, a bag of toiletries, a DVD recorder and many CD plates.

Meanwhile, THISDAY checks revealed that the police officer was shot around 6a.m., shortly after observing the morning prayers at the Mama police station.

An eyewitness in the area told THISDAY that the bandits stormed the police station in an attempt to rescue one of their members, whom they suspected was detained there.

He revealed that the slain police

officer attempted to prevent them from entering the station and in the ensuing struggle was shot by the robbers and died on the spot.

According to him, the miscreants then shot sporadically in the air to scare away residents and in the ensuing pandemonium, a stray bullet hit Labaran, who also died on the spot.

The state Commissioner of Police, Alhaji Aliyu Musa, who confirmed the incident to journalists in Sokoto yesterday, said the two persons were killed by armed robbers, who attempted to rescue a member of their gang who was detained at Mama Police station.

Musa said the robbers had on Tuesday, tried to rob at Zumunci Pharmacy shop at Sultan Abubakar road but the operation was thwarted by a Police patrol team in the area. The commissioner disclosed that the policemen nabbed one Haruna Hamza during a hot chase while the three armed robbers escaped on a motorcycle.

He however, explained that one of the suspected robbers was detained and had provided useful information to the police that would lead to the arrest of those currently at large.