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### 24 Youths Killed, 36 Others Missing in Boko Haram Ambush

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**Governor Kashim Shettima**

**By Michael Olugbode**

Not less than 24 youth vigilante group members, popularly called Civilian JTF, have been killed and 36 other still missing in another attack by members of the outlawed Boko Haram sect in a Borno town, it was gathered Saturday.

The outlawed sect members, who have in the last three weeks attacked some Borno towns killing over 100 persons, were said to have laid ambush on Friday on Monguno killing 24 vigilante youths with 36 others still missing.

The youths vigilante group numbering about 100 were said to have gone to Monguno, in the northern part of the troubled Borno State hunting for the members of the outlawed sect before most of them were hunted down.

A source told journalists Saturday in Maiduguri that: "The vigilante youths numbering over 100 were on a mission to capture some Boko Haram terrorists in their camps around Kaleri, Shuwari, Maganari and Nannari villages before they were ambushed by the terrorists which led to the death of 24 vigilante

youths, while about 36 were still missing.”

The source further revealed that: “In fact, there was an initial arrangement with military troops that they will accompany the vigilante youths to the said Boko Haram camps in Monguno. When the youths waited for them for hours and they were nowhere in sight, they decided to go and storm the camps to hunt down the sect members, but unknown to them the armed Boko Haram sect members were ready for them.

“They (sect members) were disguised in military camouflages and had three captured security patrol vehicles on the standby, which deceived the vigilante youths to believing that the military might have already attacked the camps. They let down their guard.

“As they approached the camps, the terrorists opened fire and killed about 15 of the Civilian JTF on the spot with the gun but some nine captured youths who were charmed up and could not be penetrated with gunshots were crushed by moving vehicles.”

He also said they were captured and laid on the road to be run over by a moving vehicle.

“As I am talking to you now, about 36 of the volunteered youths were still missing, while we received an unconfirmed report that five of the vigilante youths who escaped the attack with broken legs and arms were rescued by some good Samaritans and are in one of the villages close to the camps receiving.”

A top politician, who preferred anonymity told journalists that: “Already Alhaji Mohammed Nur Monguno, the Caretaker Chairman of Monguno has rushed to Maiduguri (Saturday) to brief Governor Kashim Shettima on the incident.”

All attempts to get official confirmation of the incident as at the time of filing the report last night proved unsuccessful as both military authorities and the Police Public Relations Officer, DSP Gideon Jubrin could not be reached.

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