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Scores Feared Killed in Another Gombe Attack

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Scene of the attack

Segun Awofadeji in Gombe

Several people were feared killed yesterday when gunmen believed to be members of the Boko Haram sect attacked Bajoga town in Funakaye Local Government Area of Gombe State.

However, the state police command's Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Fwaje Atajiri, a Deputy Superintendent of Police, declined to confirm the number of casualties but said normalcy had been restored, hence "no cause for alarm."

An eyewitness said the gunmen invaded Bajoga between 5a.m. and 6a.m on Thursday while Muslim worshippers were concluding their usual early morning prayers.

They were said to have entered the town in a number of Toyota Hilux vans and started shooting, forcing residents to either remain indoors or flee into the bush for their lives.

The Divisional Police headquarters and Police Area Command at Bajoga as well as one of the banks were said to have been attacked and destroyed.

It said the security agents engaged them in a gun battle for about three hours before eventually repelling them.

The assailants were said to have retreated and headed for Ashaka town also in the local government area which they equally attacked on October 30 and injured a policeman in the process.

Atajiri advised residents to remain vigilant as they return to their normal business routines, and to report suspicious activities so that the police could proactively intervene.

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