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Militants kill DCO, 4 other policemen

Written by Segun Olaniyan, Katsina
Wednesday, 22 June 2011

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Armed militants, on Monday, attacked the divisional police station in Kankara Local Government Area of Katsina State, killing the Divisional Crime Officer (DCO), four other policemen and a civilian after robbing a commercial bank.

An eyewitness who preferred anonymity, told the Nigerian Tribune that the incident which happened at about 3:15 p.m., lasted for about one and a half hours.

The source added that, the militants who were dressed in traditional attire, fired sporadically into the air and threw part of the stolen money on the streets.

He said the militants who are suspected to be members of Boko Haram, broke into the bank using what is suspected to be bomb and later used a similar item to blow up the police station.

According to the eyewitness, the armed men also ensured the release of all the suspects in the police station before the blast.

He added that the militants went away with fire arms which they loaded into their car.

When the Nigerian Tribune visited the scene, the Funtua Area Commander of the Nigeria Police, ACP Ahmed Azare and the acting chairman of Kankara Local Government Area, Alhaji Rabe Sukuntuni, were also at the scene of incident. The two men, however, declined to make any comment on the issue. The police anti-bomb squad was also present.

The bodies of the dead policemen were removed in two vehicles and taken to the Federal Medical Centre in Katsina.

When contacted, the Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Katsina State command, ASP Abubakar Ibrahim, said the command was still carrying out investigations to unravel the remote cause of the incident.

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