

Gunmen kill five in Borno as sect leader speaks on global Jihad

By BY EMEKA
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with agency report

GUNMEN suspected to be Boko Haram sect members launched another attack yesterday in the peace loving Damasak, the headquarters of Mobbar Local Government Area of Borno State, killing two bakers, one of them an indigene of Michika Council area of Adamawa State; an Igbo man and two others suspected to be Immigration and Custom officers.

In another development, the Nigeria Army yesterday said it demolished a fourth bomb factory in Kaduna State, just as it arrested a 60-year old suspected owner of the factory in Zaria, Kaduna State. Damasak is a border town with Niger Republic and about 120 kilometres away from Maiduguri, the state capital.

The killing, *Saturday Vanguard* learnt came barely two weeks after Governor Kashim Shettima visited some communities in the area which were ravaged by flood, and almost 24 hours after one of their own who also hailed from Damasak, the Chief of Staff, Government House Maiduguri, Alhaji Abu Kyari paid the affected Communities a sympathy visit.

Saturday Vanguard gathered that the gunmen numbering about six came in a Jeep at about 7am yesterday and opened fire at their victims before they fled without being arrested.

When contacted on phone, the Police Commissioner, Mr. Abdullahi Yuguda could not be reached, but the Information Officer of the Council, Mallam Babagana Mustapha told *Saturday Vanguard* that, six gunmen suspected to be terrorists laid ambush at Damasak yesterday morning, killing two Michika boys, one Igbo man and two security men suspected to be Immigration and Custom officers.

Reacting on the demolition of a bomb factory in Zaria, Assistant Army Public Relations

Officer, 1st Division of the Nigeria Army, Kaduna, Col. Sani Usman said the raid was carried out by a combined team of the Army, Police and the State Security Service, SSS, adding that one Umaru Mohammed, 60 was arrested in connection with the factory.

This was even as Reuters quoted the leader of Nigeria's Boko Haram as expressing solidarity with global Islamist fighters, saying the US and Britain "should witness that we are with our mujahideen brothers," in a video posted Thursday, SITE monitoring group said.

According to SITE, a US-based organisation, Abubakar Shekau gave the speech in Arabic in a 39-minute video posted to jihadist fora. It was not clear when it was recorded.

"The world should witness, and America, Britain, Nigeria and other crusaders, meaning America and Britain, should witness, and the Jews of Israel who are killing the Muslims in Palestine should witness... that we are with our mujahideen brothers in the cause of Allah everywhere," a translation by site said.

The video makes particular reference to global events, with Shekau saluting fighters in the Maghreb region of northern Africa, "the Islamic state in Mali," Somalia, Libya, Afghanistan, Iraq, Pakistan, Yemen and "our brothers and sheikhs in usurped Palestine."

"O Britain, America, Israel and Nigeria: Don't think that jihad stops with the death of imams," Shekau says, according to SITE. "Because imams are individuals. Jihad started now, jihad started now, O enemies of Allah."

But Col Usman said, "following a tip-off from well meaning citizens of this country, a combined team of troops of the Nigerian Army, elements of the Nigeria Police Force and Department of State Security carried out a cordon and search operation at Kwanar Shahada, Jushin Ciki, Zaria city, Kaduna State Thursday from 1.30am to 8.00am."

"During the operation, a two bedroom bungalow used as bomb making factory was discovered in which Improvised Explosive Devices, IEDs, in stage one state of readiness and several IED mak-

ing components were also recovered.

Other weapons recovered include 17 Sensor Mechanical Timers, Remote control, 11 primed suicide bomber's vests, 36 primed IEDs in Bobo cans and one military kit-bag with support items like saw, hammer, cello tapes and gums. Others are, two gallons of paint containing prepared IEDs, two gallons of Turkey oil brand with prepared IEDs, seven rolls of wires of various lengths and one bag containing several sensors as well as 25 (nine-volts) batteries.

"This is the fourth of such successes in the past three months after the initial one in same Zaria, Rigassa and in Kaduna main town. The public can use these operational lines anytime 08066 7652 75 to give information to our operational team."

"Both the suspect and the items recovered are under custody of the Headquarters 1 Division Nigerian Army. We would like to use this opportunity to commend the efforts of the well meaning citizens that reported the matter and also reiterate our resolve to fight terrorism in this country."

Oyo lawmakers leave for US to observe parliamentary session

By OLA AJAYI, Ibadan

THIRTY-TWO members of the Oyo State House of Assembly have concluded arrangement to travel to the United States of America (USA) tomorrow to observe the parliamentary session in Georgia for a week.

The journey, according to the Speaker, Hon. Monsurat Sunmonu will be embarked upon instead of the international CPA that was fixed for September in Sri Lanka.

According to the Speaker, the journey to America is part of the statutory annual parliamentary tour budgetted for by the government.

She further stated that the journey would enable the lawmakers to observe sessions in a very developed democracy and presidential system of government.

"This tour is the annual



Wife of the Governor of Ekiti State, Erelu Bisi Fayemi, holding the banner as she leads a rally marking 2012 International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women and 16 Days of Activism for No Violence Against Women and Children, in Ado-Ekiti yesterday.

Jonathan, Northern Govs condole Buhari over daughter's death

By BEN AGANDE, Abuja

PRESIDENT Goodluck Ebele Jonathan has commiserated with former Head of State, Major-General Muhammadu Buhari (rtd.) on the death of his eldest daughter, Zulaihatu yesterday. Also yesterday, the Northern Governors Forum commiserated with the former Head of State.

In a condolence letter

to General Buhari, President Jonathan prayed that God Almighty would comfort him, and grant him and members of his family succour from the pain of losing a beloved child who has been nurtured and raised to adulthood.

"I write to extend very sincere commiserations to you and your family on the death of your eldest daughter, Zulaihatu yesterday November 29th, 2012.

In his message, Forum Chairman and Governor of Niger State, Dr Babangida Aliyu, urged Buhari to be consoled by the fact that it was only "God that gives and takes life whenever He pleases."

In a statement issued by Aliyu's Chief Press Secretary, Danladi Ndayebo, he enjoined the former military leader and his family to be encouraged by the fact that his late daughter lived an inspiring and a fulfilled life.

He said life was not about how long people lived, but how people impacted positively on the environment around them.

He prayed God to grant the deceased eternal rest and the family, especially her husband and her children, the fortitude to bear the irreparable loss.

Zulaihatu died on Thursday at Nasarawa Hospital, a private clinic in Marafa, Kaduna State, during child birth.

I will be fair to all — Mimiko

THE Ondo State Governor, Dr Olusegun Mimiko has submitted that his government will not discriminate against any community notwithstanding the outcome of the last election in the respective communities.

Governor Mimiko further assured that the commitment of his government to the overall well being of every citizen of the state remain unshaken even as he as-

ured of even distribution of amenities among all communities.

The local CPA meeting held in South Africa this year and we were there. But we decided not to attend the international edition of it in Sri Lanka in September", she explained.

Dr Mimiko made the commitment on Friday at the burial of the Chairman, Akoko South West Local Government, Lady Opeyemi Adefarati in Oka Akoko. The Late Chairman died recently in a road accident.

"My government will never discriminate against any community in whatever guise irrespective of the results of the

last governorship election in the state.

"Our commitment to the overall well being of every citizen of the state remains unshaken as well as the even distribution of amenities among all communities," Mimiko had assured.

The Governor said the most important gain made during the poll was the absolute peaceful atmosphere under which the election adjudged as the freest and fairest so far in Nigeria took place.