

Gunmen kill guard, abduct 8 expatriates in Bauchi

BY SUZAN EDEH

BAUCHI — GUNMEN kidnapped eight foreigners and killed a security guard when they stormed the compound of a Lebanese construction company, Setraco, in Bauchi State, yesterday, the police said.

Among those abducted were a Briton, an Italian, a Greek and five Lebanese workers, including a woman and a child.

Bauchi Police Commissioner Mohammed Ladan said the gunmen attacked a police station and a prison overnight before storming the construction firm's compound in Jama'are town.

He said: "We repelled the attack on police station and the security men at the prison yard also repelled the attack, but they burnt two vehicles in Jama'are police station.

"They then attacked Setraco construction, killed a security guard and succeeded in

kidnapping people."

Ladan who did not disclose the identity of the people kidnapped said Police had commenced investigations into the separate attacks, adding that he will only give detail of the kidnapped workers of the company after investigations.

The Italian foreign ministry confirmed one of its nationals was taken in the raid. A spokesman for the British Embassy in Abuja said it was investigating.

Meantime, Chairman of Jama'are Local Government Area, Alhaji Adamu Aliyu, has explained that the eight people kidnapped in Setraco Construction Company are expatriates.

Aliyu who stated this while speaking with newsmen in Bauchi, noted: "Among the workers kidnapped werer one from Britain, one from Greece, one from Italy while the remaining five are Lebanese."