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secretariat in Zaria, scene of the attack, which served as one of the centres for the biometric verification exercise of workers. Reports said that some minutes before 9 am on that fateful Tuesday, a female suicide bomber blew up herself and in the process also injured about 32 persons apart from the dead. El-Rufa'i who visited the scene later described the attack as a "terrible act of infamy," Earlier on June 7, two suspected members of the Boko Haram group were said to have escaped arrest during a gun battle with a team of joint security operatives at Ungwan Keke-B village of Chikun local government area. One of the security operatives was reported killed during the incident. According to a resident of the area, "we never knew that they are Boko Haram people. We just sighted a team of military personnel cordon the house, and then gun shots filled the air at about 11:56 p.m. which led to their escape and the killing of one soldier after several hours of

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**Some two weeks after his inauguration, gunmen struck again, perhaps to notify El-Rufa'i that it would be business as usual, at least in the area of the killings and unprovoked attacks on Kaduna communities**

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shooting. One of the suspects got married to his wife who is from Bauchi eight days ago and brought her to Kaduna. Two of the wives were taken away by the soldiers."

#### **NAF jet crashes in Kaduna**

Seven persons were feared killed on August 29 when a Nigerian Air Force) chopper, a Dornier jet 228, crashed at the Ribadu Cantonment located at the old site of the Nigerian Defence Academy in Kaduna at about 6.30 am.

Reports indicated that an unspecified number of residents sustained varying degrees of injuries when the aircraft crashed near two buildings at the cantonment. The ill-fated aircraft was said to be on its way to Abuja from the Kaduna Air Force Base.

#### **Kaduna APC suspends Shehu Sani**

On December 27, the Tudun Wada ward of the APC announced the suspension of the Senator representing Kaduna Central Senatorial zone, Shehu Sani. The party explained in a letter to Sani that his suspension from party activities for 11 months was due to an alleged violation of the rules of engagement of the party, factionalizing the party and engaging in anti-party activities by criticizing the policies of Governor Nasir El-Rufai."