

Prison guard kills two bosses over WhatsApp

Several witnesses described chaotic scenes as the suspect reportedly discarded his prison uniform and attempted to change into civilian clothing.

BY DAN WANDERA

A prison warder attached to Uganda Prisons Service shot dead three people, including two of his supervisors and the wife of the officer in charge of Kiboga Prison, in a Tuesday morning incident that has shocked residents of Kiboga District.

The suspect, identified as Moses Anguyo, Warder No. 13544, allegedly opened fire at about 10am at Kiboga Central Prison, killing Hope Catherine, the deputy officer-in-charge, Bright Akishuri, the third in command and Sarah Ayebare, the wife of the officer in charge of Kiboga Prisons.

According to a statement issued by Uganda Prisons spokesperson Frank Baine, the Commissioner General of Prisons "regrets to announce the unfortunate death of three persons following a shooting incident at Kiboga Prison."

"The incident happened when [Anguyo] opened fire on his supervisors, fatally shooting them," the statement said.

Wamala Regional Police spokesperson Lamech Kigozi said in a separate statement that the deceased officers had been on routine duty when they found Anguyo allegedly chatting on his phone contrary to prison regulations.

"Anguyo was cautioned by his supervisors before they left his duty location. It is reported that Anguyo followed his supervisors, who had earlier cautioned him, and opened fire in possible anger, leading to the deaths," Mr Kigozi said.

Eyewitnesses said Hope Catherine died instantly at the scene, while Akishuri and Ayebare succumbed to their injuries shortly after being rushed to Kiboga Hospital. A child who sustained bullet wounds during the incident was by last evening fighting for his life at the same facility.

Police said a manhunt was immediately launched after the shooting. The suspect's firearm was later recovered abandoned as he fled.

Several witnesses described chaotic scenes as the suspect reportedly dis-



Hope Catherine, deceased deputy officer in charge. PHOTO/COURTESY

carded his prison uniform and attempted to change into civilian clothing. Grace Katusiime, a retail shop owner near the prison, said the warder entered her shop and grabbed a shirt, which he put on before fleeing.

"He hurriedly entered my shop and grabbed one of the shirts, which he quickly wore. He did not pay for it and abandoned his prison shoes at the entrance," she said.

While authorities have linked the shooting to a disciplinary issue, some

residents questioned whether the attack may have been premeditated. Abubaker Adam Galabuzi, a boda boda rider who was parked near the facility at the time, said many warders were away with inmates working in gardens when the incident occurred, leaving limited personnel at the station.

"It is surprising that the officer opened fire while knowing that several of the other prison warders were outside the station with the inmates. The

SIMILAR INCIDENTS

On December 31, 2016, a police officer, Patrick Oloya, a field force unit personal committed suicide after locking himself inside his unit-port house at Pader Central Police Station.

In February 2017, a police officer, Godfrey Sabiti, who was attached to the VIP Protection Unit, killed himself after shooting his wife dead. Sabiti, who resided at Nsambya barracks, killed his wife before turning the same gun on himself after he allegedly tested HIV positive. Documents that were retrieved by the police showed Mr Sabiti's wife, Akol, and their children had all their HIV results reading negative.

On October 18, 2017, Constable George Adimo, who was attached to the Field Force Unit base in Naguru, a city suburb, shot himself for unknown reasons.

On March 20, 2018: A police officer, Alfred Omara Otto, who was attached to the Anti-Stock Theft (Unit) in Katuki District, shot and killed two of his colleagues and one civilian, said to have been his girlfriend. The shooting also left two other civilians critically injured. The shooting reportedly arose from a domestic dispute between the shooter and his girlfriend.

facility was left with a few personnel to possibly counter and disable the rogue officer," he said.

Other eyewitnesses alleged that after the shooting, the suspect briefly went to a nearby primary school attended by his children and asked teachers to keep them safe before disappearing. The claims could not be independently verified by this publication.

By press time, authorities said efforts to apprehend the suspect were ongoing.

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PEOPLE
KILLED