

Two of the three suspected robbers sustained injuries. They are currently receiving treatment at an undisclosed health facility. The third suspect is in police custody.

BY PAUL ADUDE

Security operatives have foiled an attempted robbery of medical equipment valued at about Shs100m from a National Medical Stores (NMS) storage facility in Entebbe, following a tip-off from a member of the public.

The Director of the State House Health Monitoring Unit, Dr Warren Namara, said three suspects were arrested during the operation, which took place in the early hours of Sunday at the NMS store in Entebbe Municipality.

"I got information that the National Medical Stores facility in Entebbe was being raided by unknown people. Fortunately, responsible citizens alerted security, including officers from the Special Forces Command, who managed to arrest three suspects," Dr Namara told journalists.

He said two of the suspects sustained injuries and are currently receiving treatment at a hospital, while the third is in police custody.

Dr Namara said preliminary findings

Security agents foil theft of medical supplies in Entebbe



Drugs being offloaded from a National Medical Stores truck in Wakiso District. PHOTO/FILE

indicate the attempted robbery was well-planned. The suspects allegedly broke into the facility and were in the process of loading medical equipment into a Toyota Hiace van fitted with fake number plates.

Security personnel recovered a gas regulator connected to a welding gas cylinder, which Dr Namara said the suspects used to cut through metal barriers to access the stores.

Investigations have since been

launched, with the State House Health Monitoring Unit working closely with the Criminal Investigations Directorate.

"We are going to investigate this matter thoroughly, dismantle the entire racket and ensure those involved are



Police.
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prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law," Dr Namara said.

The Principal Public Relations Officer of National Medical Stores, Ms Sheilla Nduhukire, confirmed the incident, but said no medical supplies were stolen due to the swift response of security personnel.

"The items that were recovered include 78 boxes of disposable gloves and 19 boxes of oxygen regulators, valued at approximately Shs100m. These were moved to Entebbe Police Station to support investigations," Ms Nduhukire said.

She assured the public that all medical supplies remained intact.

The Kampala Metropolitan Deputy Police Spokesperson, ASP Luke Owoyesigire, also confirmed the incident, saying the robbers' attempts foiled.

"I can confirm that the suspects were neutralised by the responding forces," ASP Owoyesigire said.

However, the police declined to disclose details regarding the injuries sustained by the suspects.

A security source said two of the suspects were being treated for gunshot wounds, but by press time, it was not yet clear whether they were admitted to a military or civilian medical facility.

Investigations into the incident are ongoing.