

Lightning kills Napak security officer, 2 others, Uganda

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By Steven Ariong Posted Monday, August 12 2013 at 01:00

Napak- Three people, including a Gombolola Intelligence Officer (Giso) of Iriiri Town Council, in Napak District, have been killed by lightning. The Giso, William Longole, Awas Apalopetasia and another victim only identified as Logit, were struck by lightning following two hours of heavy downpour. They died at about 4pm on Saturday, while another person, Lowal Apale, sustained injuries.

Mr Lowal is receiving treatment at Iriiri Health Centre II. Mr Richard Loputh, an eyewitness said: “We heard a loud thunder and when it stopped raining, we received information that lightning had killed people.”

The regional police commander Mt Moroto region, Mr Okot Obwona, said the victims met their fate as they shared a moment together. “It’s very sad when striking people in the country lightning,” he said.

Mr Obwona advised residents to avoid crowding in one place when it’s raining and wear rubber shoes. He also tasked constructors to ensure that every building is equipped with lightning conductors.

What is lightning? Lightning, according to scientists, is a massive electrostatic discharge between electrically charged regions with clouds, or between a cloud and the earth surface. The charged regions within the atmosphere equalise through a lightning flash.

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