

NEWS

Gunmen attack Yobe town, kill 1

From Hamisu Kabir Matazu,
Damaturu

9 One person was killed yesterday when gunmen suspected to be members of the Boko Haram sect invaded Babangida town in Tarmowa Local Government Area of Yobe State.

Daily Trust gathered that the militants stormed the area around 1:45am in Hilux vans

and many motorcycles.

A resident of the town, Sulaiman Khalil, told our correspondent that the assailants parked their vehicles at the outskirts and entered the town on foot and motorcycles.

"Fortunately, security agents were aware of their plan, so they engaged the attackers in a serious gun battle which lasted for hours. The attackers were later forced to

retreat", he said.

He added that, "but an old man was killed by the insurgents outside his thatch house before they burnt it down. His neighbours said he was trying to escape when the militants saw him".

Fleeing residents told Daily Trust that they are afraid of more attacks on the town.

"The boys (militants) were sighted at Sassawa on Saturday afternoon and we alerted security

operatives but nothing was done about it," a resident said.

He said the attackers burnt two police patrol vehicles.

Although authorities are yet to comment on the attack, a top security officer told our correspondent that the attack maybe a reprisal. He said operatives had earlier carried out an offensive attack on the insurgents and killed 1 of them.