

# B/Haram kills policemen as new service chiefs visit Maiduguri

From Olatunji Omirin, Maiduguri

**S**uspected Boko Haram insurgents have launched an attack, killing at least three persons at a checkpoint along Maiduguri/Gubio highway on Sunday afternoon, sources have disclosed. It was learnt that the insurgents stormed a joint checkpoint between Chabol and Magumeri at about 12:30 noon, killing two policemen and one member of the Civilian Joint Task Force (CJTF) after shooting sporadically.

A security source disclosed that the attackers burnt one utility vehicle and went away with another after they displaced the security personnel stationed at the joint checkpoint.

It was gathered that the attackers also went away with some arms and

ammunition. The incident happened on a day the newly appointed service chiefs visited Maiduguri, the Borno State capital to meet with critical stakeholders to brainstorm on how to tackle insurgency in the theatre of war.

The Chief of Defence Staff (CDS), Major-General Lucky Irabor led the delegation who arrived at the headquarters of Air Task Force of Operation Lafiya Dole in Maiduguri on Sunday afternoon at about 1330 hours.

They included the CDS, Maj. General Irabor; Chief of Army Staff, Major-General Ibrahim Attahiru; Chief of Naval Staff, Rear Admiral Awwal Zubairu Gambo and the Chief of Air Staff, Air Vice Marshal Isiaka Oladayo Amao.

As the new military chiefs await confirmation by the National Assembly,

they met with Borno State Governor, Prof. Babagana Zulum, who asked them to accept constructive criticism from the public on counterinsurgency efforts.

During the meeting, Governor Zulum called for collaboration with armed forces in neighboring countries of Chad, Cameroon and Niger Republic in counterinsurgency campaigns.

He also called on the military to ensure a continued and sustained operations to deny insurgents breathing space by blocking all routes to avoid terrorist moving from one region to another.

Responding, General Irabor said military operations would be enhanced to rid the country of insurgents completely. He solicited the cooperation of civilians in military campaigns.