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Lagos State University (LASU) students barricade Governor's Office, protesting over the hike in school fees at Lagos House, Alausa, Ikeja. Story on Page 4. (Inset) Smoke billowing from a section of the Gombe State House after it was allegedly bombed by suspected terrorists... yesterday.

45 feared killed in Borno, Gombe Govt House bombed

From Njadvara Musa, Maiduguri

FRESH violence has allegedly claimed 45 lives in Borno State.

The tragedy was said to have occurred when gunmen suspected to be *Boko Haram* terrorists on Wednesday

stormed Belgeri village in Konduga council of the state in over a dozen Toyota Hilux vehicles and motorcycles laden with Improvised Explosive Devices (IED). They shot dead 45 people and torched several houses.

Yesterday too, an online re-

port noted that the Government House in Gombe State was attacked in a massive explosion late afternoon.

But there were no confirmed reports of injuries, death, or the level of the carnage.

So far no group has claimed

responsibility. Police, Fire Department and military officials are on the scene, battling a fire from the blast. Eyewitnesses say it was a bomb blast that could be heard all over the city.

Belgeri village is about 65 kilometres east of Maid-

uguri. An eyewitness, Ibrahim Isah, who escaped to Maiduguri yesterday, told *The Guardian* that the insurgents disguised as preachers at a local mosque before opening fire on worshippers. "We were shocked and terrified about how our people

were lured into a mosque by disguised militants only for many of them to be killed. As I speak now, the dead bodies are yet to be buried", he added.

He said that in the other destroyed village, the attackers

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