

NEWS.

Gunmen Kill Policeman, Torch Police Station, Others

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AS violence continue to erupt in Yobe State, suspected Boko Haram gunmen in a convoy of Toyota Hilux vehicles and motorcycles attacked Damagum town, killing a policeman and destroying a Divisional Police Station, telecom masts and council's public buildings on Saturday evening.

Speaking on the attacks, the Fune council chairman, Alhaji Digma Gana disclosed that the insurgents employed Improvised Explosives Devices (IEDs) and petrol-bombs to destroy the secretariat complex, including the telecom masts.

"The insurgents first attacked the military command in Damagum and police station and barracks, before torching our buildings and the telecom masts with IEDs and petrol-bombs, and fled towards Damaturu road. Residents of Damagum had to scamper for safety by running into their houses, but three children are still missing in the three-hour operations," Gana said in telephone interview yesterday.

He said no civilian was killed in attack, apart from the slain of a police officer that attempted to repel the insurgents at the police station.

He listed the torched public buildings to include the Local Government

Education Department (LGED), the office of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and Airtel telecom masts in the town.

Other property destroyed, he added, were two Toyota Hilux Vehicles belonging to the council, as well as the old Government Lodge and the Guest House of the Emir of Fune.

He said the insurgents looted three shops as they catered away foodstuffs, beverages and drugs belonging to traders.

The chairman also commended the gallantry of the security operatives who stood firm in repelling the attack, stating that the hoodlums may have evaded the Fune council area in search for food and other necessities.