

24 killed in Borno separate attacks



No fewer than 24 people including 14 suspected Boko Haram terrorists were been killed in separate attacks in Gwoza, Biu and Konduga Local Government Areas of **Borno state yesterday**

13 people including four suspected sect members were killed in an attack on church worshippers by Boko Haram in Attagara village.

Police sources and fleeing residents said.

The village lies in the Gwoza hills, near the Cameroon border and now the main stronghold of Boko Haram.

“As we were holding service, we started hearing gunshots and everybody fled, some through the windows, and ran into bush,” resident Matha Yohana said of Sunday’s attack. A police source said nine were killed in the assaults.

Also in Gwoshe town in Gwoza, suspected members of the Boko Haram on Sunday morning burnt down many houses, shops and two churches.

Military patrol troops have successfully repelled an ambush in Buratai community in Biu town. The troops, who fell into the ambush laid by the terrorists while on patrol, engaged the terrorists in a decisive fire fight killing four of them and capturing one alive. Also in Kawuri village of Konduga Local Government, troops in a patrol killed five terrorists in a shootout. The troops also captured two AK 47 rifles and two vehicles used by the

terrorists.

Gwoza is south and about 135 kilometres, Biu is also south and about 185 kilometres, while Konduga is north east and about 40 kilometres drive from Maiduguri, the state capital.

The Attangara community also mobilised and succeeded in killing four of the attackers.

Also a fleeing resident of Attagara, Matha Yohana said the insurgents came while Sunday service was going. "The attack occurred at EYN Church (Church of Brethern in Nigeria) while the service was on. Our church has some men as security group. They usually keep vigilance of the church especially when service is going on. As we were holding service, we started hearing gunshots and everybody fled, some through the windows and ran into bush. Some whose houses are near the church also ran to their houses. Men in the community immediately mobilised and pursued the Boko Haram men. They were more than 10, they came on motorcycles and a car. Our vigilante killed four of the Boko Haram and arrested three. I later discovered nine of our men in the church security group were shot dead. I left Attagara yesterday afternoon, slept at Gwoza to get to Maiduguri today," Matha said.

Miss Naomi Idrissa Gwoshe, whose mother was among those taking refuge on top of Mandara mountains before the attack, said in Maiduguri that their family house, near burnt churches was also set ablaze.