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Six die as Boko Haram bombs Borno

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Six persons have been killed by suspected members of the Boko Haram sect who invaded a community on the outskirts of Maiduguri, Borno State capital on Saturday morning.

They set several houses ablaze, including a primary school. They were said to have thrown Improvised Explosive Devices and petrol-bombs on the buildings.

The incident occurred around 1.35am on Saturday at Malari on Maiduguri- Bama road; which is 18 kilometres east of the University of Maiduguri.

The insurgents were said to have tried to enter Maiduguri but were repelled by security men, who prevented them from attacking the varsity.

According to residents of the 303 and 202 Housing estates, who spoke to journalists, the repulsion of the gunmen commenced by 1am and continued till dawn with exchange of several gunshots and firing of six grenades by troops stationed at the varsity gates and Dalori military post.

One of the residents of the housing estates, Danjuma Yohana said, "Even though there were no losses of lives at the varsity and two housing estates, the over three-hour exchange of gunfire between the soldiers and gunmen was deafening and shocking. We were afraid that the stray bullets could hit us, as our houses are a few metres to the varsity gates.

"I thought that the terrorists had entered Maiduguri again, because the sounds of gunshots and grenades during the three-hour repulsion of insurgents at the university gates terrified me and seven family members last night."

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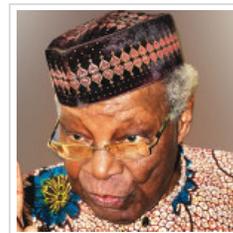
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