Seven killed as Boko Haram attacks Tafawa Balewa in Bauchi

From PAUL ORUDE, Bauchi

o fewer than three vigilance members and four members of Boko Haram insurgents were killed on Monday when the latter attacked Tafawa Balewa and Gitar towns in Bauchi state.

An eye witness, who said she escaped to the bush with other women said the well-armed insurgents stormed Tafawa Balewa town at about 7.00 am in 18 Hilux jeep vehicles and started shooting

sporadically.

The resident who asked not to be named said news that the insurgents had stormed the area reached them on Sunday night, forcing female residents to flee to the bushes while the men and youths stayed back.

It was further learnt that youths in the area succeeded in killing four insurgents while the gunmen killed three of them in retaliation.

The Bauchi State Police Public Relation Officer (PPRO), DSP Haruna Mohammed confirmed the attack.He disclosed that se-

the gunmen in gun battle.

"On Monday, March 30, 2015 at about 07:30hrs, unknown gunmen stormed Tafawa Balewa town in a convoy of 18 Hilux vehicles and started firing sporadically in different direction.

"The joint police and local vigilance group in the town who got wind of the approaching hoodlums engaged them in a fierce gun battle which forced them to abandon four Hilux vehicles mounted with anti-aircraft machine guns and retreated back towards

Bununu after sustaining heavy casualties."

The PPRO said rampaging youths in the town numbering over 3000 burnt four corpses of the attackers and the recovered Hilux vehicles.

The Police spokesman disclosed that two empty shells of 12.7mm ammunition of AA were recovered at the scene of the attack.

The PPRO added that the hoodlums went back to Jitar village in Bauch LGA and killed three vig lance members namel Musa Ahmed Maidoy Inuwa Musa and Batur Abdullahi.