

the APC in response to the crisis.

Boko

From Timothy Olanrewaju, Maiduguri

BOKO Haram terrorists have raided communities near Maiduguri, the capital of Borno State, burnt houses and killed no fewer than three people, including an Islamic cleric. Sources said the insurgents attacked Auno, a com-

munity along the Maiduguri-Damaturu highway, about 12 kilometres to Maiduguri, on Monday.

Soldiers and combat policemen were immediately deployed to the area, leading to a gun battle with the insurgents. Theatre commander, Operation Lafiya Dole, Maj. Gen. Benson Akinroluyo, confirmed the attack but did not give details. He said he was on his way to Auno

to assess the situation.

Barely three hours after the Auno attack, some insurgents raided Sajeri, a small community on the outskirts of Maiduguri. Residents said the insurgents arrived the community at about 10pm, demanded for money and mobile phones. Two people, one of them an Islamic cleric, were killed.

The son of the cleric, Hussein Mo-

ammed, told journalists the insurgents shot his father when he could not give them money. "They came at about 10pm. When they came, they were shooting. They asked for money but he told them he didn't have. They also asked for mobile phones but he said he didn't have. So, they shot him."

The terrorists also burnt at least eight houses. Some residents and

witnesses, including Zara Modu and Abdullah Goni, said the attackers were a few young men.

Shuibu Saleh, whose provision shop was looted by the insurgents during the attack, said Boko Haram packed everything in his shop. He appealed to government to assist them.

The community has buried the deceased as at noon yesterday.

Haram kills cleric, 2 others in Borno